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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 5TH, 1884.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS; ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 1883.

WEEKLY NOTES.

HOSPITABLE Japanese householders, when pressing a friend to partake of refreshments in the face of his assertions that he has already dined, habitually make use of the phrase "*tokoro kawareba, aji kawaru*," which may be freely translated, "the flavour of the viands changes with the place where they are eaten." We are forcibly reminded of this saying when we observe the different attitudes of the foreign communities at the various settlements, with regard to municipal Government. At Hiogo, Osaka, and Nagasaki alike, the Japanese employés of the foreign residents are duly registered by the municipal police, who make monthly domiciliary visits for the purpose. The result, so far as Kobe is concerned, is thus recorded by the *Hiogo News*:—"Before the system of registration of servants was instituted by the Hiogo Municipal Council nearly three years ago, scarcely a week passed that some foreign resident had not occasion to complain of a theft on his premises. A servant would be missing, and at the same time some property, but in not one instance out of a hundred could any information be obtained of the probable destination of the thief, where he came from, or where his relations lived. Now—that is since the registration system has been brought into force—thefts by servants are as rare as formerly they were frequent, and seldom does the thief manage to escape capture." The same journal explains the method of carrying out the registration, and shows that it is attended by no inconvenience whatsoever to foreign householders. But in Yokohama, it has been decided

that such a system would be an intolerable violation of some romantic privilege, which cannot be defined, indeed, but which, nevertheless, every true Briton is bound to defend against the insidious devices of all persons having skins a shade darker than his own. We have not yet been able to discover what might happen, or what is apprehended, if a sergeant of municipal police were permitted to come and write down the names of our servants once a month, but we presume that the proposal must present some objectionable features since it emanates from the Japanese. It would never do were the Foreign Office able to compile a record, showing the brand of our cigars, and the number of pieces each of us sends to the wash every week. As highly civilized Englishmen, with rights which our forefathers wrung from despots upon sundry sanguinary fields, it is our bounden duty to oppose every conceivable obstacle to such a system of espionage, even though the alternative be to see our houses converted into asylums for thieves and jail-birds. If the inhabitants of Kobe, Osaka, and Nagasaki have so far forgotten the traditions of their race as to permit the privacy of their Japanese servant's quarters to be invaded once a month by a Japanese constable with a pencil and a pocket-book, it is all the more incumbent upon the residents of the principal settlement to set a stern and unflinching example to their erring compatriots.

WE learn from a Nagasaki journal that after a twenty-five days' trial, the Criminal Court has pronounced judgment in the case of the constable charged with causing the death of a Chinaman, on the night of September the 15th, while attempting to arrest some opium smokers. The gist of the judgment is said to be that, despite the conflicting and contradictory nature of the evidence, it has been established, beyond a doubt, that the deceased met his death in a struggle between Chinese residents and Japanese constables, "*while the latter were attempting to make an illegal arrest*," and that a constable by name Mipasu is alone responsible for the man's death. The italics here are our own. We use them to draw attention to a part of the verdict which appears quite incredible. There can be little question that, according to the treaty between China and Japan, the local authorities of the latter country are entitled to arrest Chinese engaged either in opium smuggling, or in the perpetration of the more serious offence of opium smoking, and that no previous reference to a Chinese Consul is necessary. Indeed, it is plain, without considering any treaty, that such must be the case. The use of opium is a violation of the laws of Japan, and its suppression does not conflict with any treaty right. It is not necessary, therefore, that a Japanese constable should apply to any one for a warrant to arrest a Chinaman whom he discovers in the act of smoking opium. He might as well apply for a warrant to arrest a drunken sailor. We do not believe that the verdict contains any such sentence as that quoted above, unless, indeed,

the circumstances of the affair were altogether different from the reports hitherto published both by Chinese and Japanese. It will surprise us to learn that among the privileges conferred by extraterritoriality is included the right of committing an immoral and illegal act under the very eyes of the Japanese police, without the latter having power to interfere until they have obtained written permission. The Japanese appear to admit practically that British subjects, under extraterritorial jurisdiction, are at liberty to convert their houses into gambling exchanges where Japanese subjects may resort, to transgress the laws of the land. We entirely disagree with any such notion. If the Japanese authorities had the courage to enter such establishments and arrest the law-breakers without asking the British Consul any questions, they would soon learn whether Her Majesty's Government is disposed to support the false and unwarrantable interpretation put upon the treaties by giddy officials. All that is wanted to set these matters right is a little pluck, and its exercise would be heartily applauded by ninety-nine Englishmen out of a hundred.

THE *London and China Express*, in its issue of November the 9th, commented in a somewhat listless strain upon the resolutions adopted by a meeting of Japanese at the Langham Hotel, and its comments elicited two lengthy communications one from the Japanese who drew up the resolutions and the other from a Japanese merchant residing in London. These letters have been already published in our columns. The *London and China Express* has made no attempt to answer them, so that we may consider its original expression of opinion to be final, for the present at all events. Our contemporary set out by saying that the gentlemen who met at the Langham Hotel and drew up the resolutions "cannot be taken as representatives of Japanese trade with Great Britain, and can therefore not expect that their voice will be listened to with the same respect as a deliverance by the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce;" and that "the resolutions passed at the meeting held on the 3rd inst. are simply an expression of individual opinion, or of the opinion of a certain number of individuals, which will no doubt be acknowledged with all due courtesy by the Japanese Government, but cannot carry the weight attaching to similar expressions by largely interested and representative bodies." This airy method of discrediting the results of the meeting at the Langham is of a piece with the tone generally adopted by foreign journals in discussing Japanese treaty revision. We are asked to attach the utmost importance to the utterances of a foreign Chamber of Commerce made up of men who, however intelligent and enterprising from a commercial point of view, have come to Japan solely for the purpose of making and carrying away as much money as they can in the shortest possible time, and who cannot reasonably be expected to care anything for this country so soon as it has served their temporary turn. But if a number of Japanese who, by residing abroad, have enjoyed exceptional opportunities of observing the

deference that free states pay to each other's rights, assemble, and, after careful deliberation, draw up a set of resolutions on the subject of treaty revision, we are assured that their views do not deserve as much respect as "a deliverance of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce," and that their resolutions are "simply an expression of individual opinion, or of the opinion of a certain number of individuals." There is a most charming vagueness about this phrase, "the opinion of a certain number of individuals." It would be interesting to know, as an arithmetical curiosity, at what particular point of collective magnitude the members of an assembly lose their individuality. What particular characteristic, numerical or otherwise, entitles the "deliverances" of the ten or twelve gentlemen who interest themselves actively in the concerns of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, to be placed on a higher pedestal than "the opinion of a certain number of individuals." There is something here that does not immediately render itself comprehensible, though, as an illustration of the impression it is intended to convey, the phrase is well enough in its way.

It would scarcely be worth while to comment on these phraseological quibbles were they not consistent with the whole tone of the article under review. Our contemporary continues thus:—

The expression of impatience at the extreme length of the negotiations is not unnatural. But is it not the fact that the revision has hitherto failed of result, because the revision itself was premature? The failure is, in one sense, a tribute to the wisdom of the first negotiators. The treaties were so well adapted to the requirements of the situation that they have been allowed to remain in operation for a double term, without any inconvenience having been felt from the delay sufficiently serious to cause real impatience or irritation. Certainly, the Japanese wish important changes, but it is more as a matter of sentiment than because of any real inconvenience that existing circumstances entail. And, again we ask, whether their failure so far to gain assent to the proposed changes is not due to the fact that revision itself is premature? Foreign Governments are not yet prepared to restore to Japan judicial power over their nationals, because Japanese laws and customs have not yet been brought sufficiently into harmony with their own to give confidence in the experiment, or rather we should say the practice of the laws has not reached that point. Japanese statesmen have been engaged for years in preparing a code of law having, it is understood, the Code Napoleon for basis. It is hardly surprising that Foreign Governments should prefer waiting to see the experience of its working before consenting to subject their nationals to it. The objection to throwing open the whole country, so long as extra-territorial jurisdiction is reserved, is, we suppose reasonable. It is one thing to have foreigners residing at a given spot, under the effective control of their own officials, and quite another to have them roaming or living at large throughout the Empire, subject to no local control, but liable only to be sued before a tribunal a hundred miles, it may be, distant. We took occasion, not long ago, to glance at the question of extra-territoriality in connection with the arguments against the *Libert Bill*. We maintained then, and we repeat that, while the grievance is wholly sentimental and intangible, its abolition would at present be fraught with very real inconvenience, and excite a dangerous feeling of race antagonism. Once again, revision is, under this head at least, decidedly premature.

We venture to predict that if any one will be at the pains to read this quotation twice, the resultant impression will be one of unbounded astonishment. The argument amounts simply to this: the fact that efforts to improve a system are not successful may be taken as a proof that the system does not need improvement. The absurdity of such a contention is self-evident. One might as well say that the practice of foot-binding in China is proper because the efforts hitherto made by the reigning dynasty to check its prevalence have failed. The only logical inference to be drawn from the circumstance is that the people of China are still too barbarous to appreciate the reforms preached to them by their rulers. Precisely analogous is the position in which the Japanese nation is virtually placed by the refusal of foreign Powers to revise the treaties. Let it be understood that we make no allusion here to the question of tariff. That is a mere bagatelle, entirely unconnected with the opening

of the country. We allude to those clauses of the treaties which deprive Japan of jurisdiction over foreign residents, and which have further been falsely construed as conferring exemption from any obligation to observe Japanese laws or regulations. These clauses were devised wholly with reference to a state of partial intercourse.

The journal from which we quote, itself admits unequivocally that the Japanese Government would not be justified in throwing open the country so long as extra-territorial jurisdiction is observed, since "to have foreigners residing at a given spot, under the effective control of their own officials, is one thing, and to have them roaming or living at large throughout the Empire, subject to no local control, but liable only to be sued before a tribunal a hundred miles, it may be, distant, is quite another thing." Thus then the position amounts to this: the Japanese, declaring that the day is long past when any barrier of prejudice or tradition existed between them and the outer world, earnestly seek for a revision of treaties which were confessedly framed to suit a state of semi-isolation, and which, so long as they continue unrevised, necessarily perpetuate that state; the Foreign Powers reply that the treaties are very well "adapted to the requirements of the situation;" that the delay in revising them has not produced any trouble "sufficiently serious to cause real impatience or irritation," and that the desire of revision is "more a matter of sentiment" than anything else. In other words, Foreign Powers tell Japan that in their judgment she is not yet sufficiently civilized to grant strangers the same privileges within her territories as her own subjects enjoy everywhere abroad; and when she objects to this verdict, and points to what she has done as evidence of her title to be trusted, answer is made that such appeals are mere matters of sentiment. The Japanese may well be puzzled. They may well enquire when this access of practicality overtook their foreign friends. Was it in deference to a mere point of sentiment that Western Powers sent their fleets here a quarter of a century ago to batter down the barriers of Japanese isolation, alleging, in justification of this resort to force, the imperative dictates of progress and civilization, which forbid that any nation shall hold itself aloof from the rest of the world? Was it, and is it, in obedience to a mere point of sentiment that Western statesmen and philosophers did then, and do still, denounce, in the most unequivocal terms, the spirit which imposes restrictions upon international intercourse in the Orient, declaring that such a spirit is inconsistent with civilized codes, and that every nation exhibiting it must consent to be called barbarous? If all this be pure sentiment, unworthy of practical recognition, then the Japanese had better begin to educate themselves again. They had better learn that a nation has no business to be jealous of its reputation; that it will only be ridiculed if it gives effective expression to a desire for free and equal intercourse with the rest of the world. They had better learn, in short, that though Western peoples have a mission to force their society upon Eastern, it is for the former alone to determine the limits of such intercourse. No other interpretation can be truly put upon the attitude of the Foreign Powers in this matter of treaty revision. By refusing to modify agreements confessedly adapted to a state of partial intercourse only, they practically avow their resolution to prevent perfect intercourse. The

tables are completely turned. It is Japan now who is liberal and progressive: the exclusiveness and race prejudice, are entirely on the side of her treaty friends, who at the same time offer to supply her with new religions and new systems of moral philosophy!

* * *

We have argued this question from a broad standpoint, because, whatever may be said about sentiment and romance, it is quite certain that Englishmen, at all events, will respect and sympathise with Japan's desire to be freed from the stigma of semi-barbarism. As for the statement that no serious inconvenience is caused by the present condition of affairs, it can only be referred to ignorance. It is a most serious inconvenience that by twelve or thirteen of the Treaty Powers no efficient machinery for preserving law and order has been provided in the place of the jurisdiction taken from the Japanese. It is a most serious inconvenience that, with the one honorable exception of American citizens, every foreigner residing in Japan is at liberty to violate Japanese local and municipal regulations at his pleasure. It is a most serious inconvenience that the development of Japanese resources is fatally impeded by a system which cripples enterprise, keeps capital at a distance, and cages up within the narrow limits of tiny settlements the few hundred foreigners who eke out there such scanty pittance as the generosity of the monopolists that environ them permits. It is a most serious inconvenience that the feeling of mutual umbrage and distrust grows daily deeper and sorer, and that the principles of Western civilization and morality are persistently contradicted by the practice of injustice and illiberality. If the people of Japan evinced no disposition or desire to amend such a miserable state of affairs, we should have but little hope for their future.

* * *

Is Japan powerless in this matter? Must she quietly submit to a verdict which condemns her to seclusion and to a state of confessed unfitness for free international intercourse. Most certainly not. If after years of weary endeavour to effect a suitable revision of treaties which became legally subject to revision in 1871, she finds it impossible to obtain from Western Powers terms which every independent country has a right to demand, there is only one course open to her, and that is to renounce the treaties. Under such circumstances she is neither morally nor legally bound to observe them. The endorsement of one of the most renowned of European juriconsults was not needed to establish the soundness of this opinion. They greatly mistake the temper of the times who imagine that any civilized Power could venture to make war upon an Oriental State because the latter declined to accord to aliens residing within its territories privileges greater than, or different from, those enjoyed by its own subjects. If the Mikado's Government were to declare to-morrow that henceforth all distinctions shall cease to exist between foreigners and Japanese in Japan; that both shall enjoy the same rights of trade, travel, and residence, and that every clause of every treaty designed to impose distinctions or restrictions shall be finally abrogated, there is not a Power in Europe that would permit itself to oppose by force the consummation of such a programme. We do not care to contemplate the necessity of this step, not because its consequences suggest any apprehension, but because recourse to it would imply, on the side of the Treaty Powers,

an obdurate indifference to Japan's claims as well as an inconsistency of principle and practice which no one will be readily disposed to admit. But at the same time we are persuaded that a little more resolution and courage on Japan's part would go far to provide an exit from the deadlock.

As time goes by we are apparently destined to discover that China is in very truth the mother of *all* inventions. Until the other day there was one thing, at any rate, which we were disposed to regard as a specimen of genuine American originality, though possibly not altogether free from the echo of an Indian war-whoop. We allude to that condition of almost supernatural exaltation which, according to Mark Twain, often precedes a combat in the United States, and the effect of which is to make the combatants caper around, applying to themselves various pleasant epithets, such as bald-headed snipes of the prairie, double-jawed hyenas from the upper trail, blazing bloody blitzers, snorter, snoozers and so forth. But it would seem that even this device is quite familiar to the Chinese, if we may judge by the following document which we extract from the columns of the *New York Herald*:—

PATRIOTIC LETTER PURPORTING TO BE WRITTEN BY LIU JUNG-FU, CHIEF OF THE BLACK FLAGS, TO ADMIRAL COURBET, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE FRENCH FORCES IN TONKIN.

BY A GRADUATE OF NANKING:

It is a well-known fact that when soldiers were engaged in ancient times, there was no confusion in rendering obedience to orders. Now you Frenchmen have been creating disturbances in Annam for the last nine or ten months. Your General has been killed, which is a shame upon your country; the expenditure of your money in this war has been the means of impoverishing your people; similar disasters will be multiplied as you go on, and yet you do not know how to repent of having produced such calamities. How can you answer for the deeds you perform? You are no better than beasts which devour their own parents, and you will pollute the swords which may yet kill you; but you are entitled to no compassion. I only pity the inhabitants of Pei-ch'i, whom you have so distressed and trampled upon that the mere sighing of the winds and the shrieking of storks make them fancy their enemies are approaching, so that there is scarcely time left for them to sleep. Whose fault, I ask you, is this? You make our people run to and fro in terror and distress. It is the virtue of Life, which is an attribute of High Heaven, that compels me to speak these words to you, for our King, also, loves his people. For the last few months your soldiers have shown signs of lassitude and enervation, and may be likened to animals at their last gasp in a frying-pan; for you stay cooped up in your barracks without any heart to engage us in battle. I hear that by dint of no small brag, you have attempted to frighten China, saying that you are going to attack Canton. You are like mules in your ideas! You may be said to be in abject poverty, and being everywhere ill spoken of, you have become even more ferocious. China is well known among the inhabitants of the Four Continents; why should she fear you? I know well enough that you dare not declare war against China; nevertheless by your brag you inflict injury on others. Nor do I hesitate to assert my belief that all you say amounts to no more than empty threats to frighten people. Now listen to what I say, and open your eyes. Twenty years ago, when the Chinese Emperor T'ung Chih had just ascended the Throne, I, trying to avoid the trouble of rebellion in China, went over to Annam; and the men I had with me were not all my own followers—they were only friends of mine. On my arrival at that time in Annam the people of the two provinces Hsing Hua and Hsuan Kuang were in rebellion against the Annamese King; wherefore the high officials asked me to appeal for volunteers. I undertook the task, I organised an army, and I was instrumental in annihilating the insurgents. For this service I obtained the rank of Assistant General of San Hsien. At that time, also, you Frenchmen were fighting in Nan-ch'i on account of some matters relating to the Chiu Lung Chiang—Nine-Dragon River. Receiving the commands, therefore, of the King of Annam, I led troops to the South, and in three engagements with your soldiers I repeatedly routed them, captured their General, and put numbers of them to the sword. It is needless for me to point out that you are perfectly well aware of these facts. A year after this, when a Treaty had been made with you, I returned to Pei-ch'i, and resumed my peaceful occupations. Do you still dare to brag of the bravery of your troops, of the magnitude of your country, and of the superiority of your military organisation? Do you say that your country is the largest upon earth—that it is the most powerful—that you are the bravest among all nations—that there is no nation in the world that dares to fight with you? In my opinion you appear to be nothing more than dogs. My own followers submit to me because I love justice and mercy. They are nothing but tillers of the soil and merchants; they have in no wise been trained to arms; hence I have been able to rule them by the exercise of kindness and justice. By mutual assistance we have been able to avert calamities from our Kingdom. I have always been victorious against

the armies of France. Though your enmity against me and mine is consequently intense, still I, Liu Jung-fu, am by no means afraid of you. It is indeed laughable that everything you have done in Annam has been under the pretext of "protecting" the Kingdom. Seeing that Annam is in my opinion tributary to China, if ever she wants protection China is there to give it her. What are Annamese affairs to the French? For instance: in a family of children, all their needs, such as protection against cold, heat, pain, or irritation, are ministered to by their parents, who are their natural guardians. If, therefore, any outsider attempts to fondle the children, even though it should be from love of them, he would lay himself open to the suspicion of being a kidnapper. Your doings in Annam are on all-fours with this.

Besides, I know that you French were conquered by the Prussians, that your fortresses were dismantled, and your Emperor captured. You were not only conquered; you had to pay a war-indemnity as well. Some of your colonies have been lost; would it not be more natural for you to try and protect those that are left to you! Open your eyes, then, before you make any attempts against Annam. You are only making yourselves a laughing-stock to the world. I am afraid you are not aware how much you are despised by other nations!

Now, as regards the word "protection." When the Great Emperor of China ordered his generals into Annam, it was for the express purpose of suppressing the rebel hordes. After this had been accomplished, they all returned home. They did not take by force a single grain of rice, nor did they disturb a single stack of corn; dogs and fowls had no fear of them, and the inhabitants lived at their homes in peace. This is what is called "protection." But you Frenchmen, when you saw rebellion in the provinces, simply sat down and looked on; you never sent a single soldier to assist the King, but, on the contrary, you instigated the rebels to disobedience, and thus became the means of creating trouble. There was not the least "protection" given. I pass over what has been done before to what is being done now. If you have the least idea of affording "protection," what do you mean by capturing Annamese cities, killing Annamese mandarins, ransacking the Annamese Treasury, and forcing the Annamese King to sign a Treaty? Moreover, you bring over Black Devils [Turcos] who ravish our women and rob our goods—indeed, there is not a single thing that they do not do. They are more ferocious than poverty-stricken murderers and the fiercest robbers; in fact they are twice as bad. You pretend to be just and merciful, but by your acts you prove yourselves akin to thieves and murderers. The Great Emperor of China is at present highly wroth, and has commanded his generals and armies to take the field in order to war against and punish you French. I, Liu Jung-fu, have received despatches from Hsu, Fu-t'ai of Kuangsi, stating that he has been honoured with an Imperial Decree directing him to tell me to gather together my forces and recapture Hanoi, and in no case to make a retrograde movement. Such are the commands of Heaven. It would then be possible for the officials and people of Annam to live a few years longer. I, therefore, Liu Jung-fu, brave in spirit, have mustered my forces, which are composed of men who have at one time or another received some kindness from me, and who are therefore willing to die for me and for their country.

Now I opine that every creature under Heaven has participated in the bounty of the Great Emperor; hence people from the most distant lands sing praises of his good deeds, and there is not one soul who does not feel happy to submit to Him. The King of Annam is also a lover of justice, and in everything connected with you, Frenchmen, he has acted up to his high principles. When he warred with you, he only did so through force of circumstances; he never had any idea originally of driving you out. But you Frenchmen have nothing but the spirit of injury within you; evils of which others have no conception are propagated by you. You have already cajoled us out of a hundred myriads of money; you have encroached upon six of our best provinces; and you have obtained possession of three or four of our ports. Even in spite of all this, you have been kindly treated by the King of Annam, and the only return you make for his kindness is to encroach upon him still more. But now good fortune has descended on our country; our King has changed his former mind toward you, and is going to sweep you off the face of Annam. In former times he never had any wish to fight you, but now he is determined to do so, and by this means he will be able to pacify the hearts of the people.

But even a piece of rock may one day become alive, and a ferocious tiger have an occasional fit of good humour. Cannot you Frenchmen, then, pause for a moment in your evil course, for reflection? If I have not already trespassed too much upon your patience, let me continue my illustrations. Annam is by no means a rich country; it is, moreover, a great distance from France; and from the commencement of your intercourse with us up till now you have gained no laurels. Even if you should annex the country the inhabitants will never submit to you in their heart of hearts, but will always look up to their own mandarins for support. Besides, China has already sent to Annam her generals, who are ferocious as bears and savages, and her soldiers, who are as swift of foot as fire. I, Liu Jung-fu, am therefore determined to put on my armour and assist them in doing battle against you. We have rice to last us ten years in the districts west of the mountains. The regions north of the River contain grain enough to feed a million men. The country without and within the frontier contains troops stationed every five li, and as soon as the Chinese armies arrive all the mountains will tremble beneath their footsteps. How unlike are we, [in taking these measures], to you Frenchmen, whose Minister for Foreign Affairs, having scraped together a few troops one day, must ask the Chamber for a credit of money the next! He gets some from the east, he borrows a little from the west; picks up a bit with his right hand, and tries to filch a little more with his left. When these miserable pickings are lumped together they certainly make an imposing show, but what an empty foundation, for is it not exposed? After the engagements of the 28th of the 7th month and the 10th day of the 8th moon, we ceased fighting with you; not because we were afraid of you, but because we knew that negotiations were going on between that Great Emperor and your country about Annam. It was for this reason that we did not continue hostile operations, lest we might prejudice the good wishes of China. You, on the contrary, attributed this to

fear! But, in the first place, I was waiting to see what your next move was to be, so that I might counteract your plans; and in the next place I was awaiting reinforcements. Eventually you will all be gathered into my net, and, when you have all been put to the sword, Annam will once more be at peace.

You Frenchmen still cherish the idea of taking Bac Ninh, and also desire to capture Sontay. Is not this a vain dream? Everything I have said to you is for the sole benefit of you Frenchmen. Perhaps then you will be enlightened, and return Hanoi and Namdinh to Annam, and having so done embark your troops at once. When you have done this, even though I hold the commands of the Great Emperor to fight, still, having pity on the inhabitants of the country, I will refrain from further hostilities, and write to the Fu-t'ai Hsu to memorialise the Great Emperor to forgive you the sins of the past. After your retreat, compassionating your abject poverty, I will not lay a heavy hand upon you, but effect a Treaty with you instead. I, Liu Jung-fu, will be responsible for this, and will not eat the words that I have spoken. If you still persist in your evil course and repent not of your idle dreams, I, Liu Jung-fu, having received the Imperial commands, will stake my life in battle with you, and I personally will be the advance guard of the Chinese army.

How can you, Frenchmen, being like dogs and sheep, hope to conquer us, who are like tigers and panthers? You Seeing us so ferocious, then, it would be better that you should decamp quickly. If you, like a sick patient, listen to my words as to those of a physician, you will surely have no cause for shame hereafter. But if you do not submit, then you will be destroyed like a crumbling mountain. Even if at present the Great Emperor does not cherish the wish to fight against you, still, if you persist, your very dens and caves in Saigon will be wrested from you, nor will a single soldier or trooper of France be suffered to remain in Annam. And when every nation in the world knows this, will you still have the face to remain as a country in Europe? You will suffer the same fate as you did when, under Napoleon the Third, you fought against Prussia. Now I have heard that all the transportations of troops and such like to Annam were the sole idea of one man—the former Minister of Foreign Affairs; it was not the idea of the President of the Republic, nor were the French people at ease when they saw so much money being expended on the expedition. So it seems to me that the whole affair was the private scheme of a single individual, against the wishes of the whole people of France. This was the reason of the retirement from office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The present Foreign Minister is yet without any settled ideas of his own, and those of his colleagues should, in view of this, influence him to abandon the policy of his predecessor.

An answer to this letter is requested within three days from its receipt by you. If you remain silent, beware lest you share the same fate as Riviere! Think three times over this!

Written by a Chinese Scholar of determined mind.

We observe with pleasure that arrangements have been made for bringing the Tokiyo Lectures on "Christianity and Humanity" within easier reach of the public. A prospectus has been issued announcing that a part of the remaining stock will be sold at a dollar a copy, provided a sufficient number of orders are received to prevent actual loss. The first and second volumes of the Japanese version are also advertized, and as their retail price is only 15 sen a volume, their circulation among the Japanese ought to be very greatly facilitated.

NOTES.

We have never been able to understand why directories published in Japan should be different from those published everywhere else. If one takes up, for example, a London Directory or a New York Directory, the leading impression it conveys is that no trouble has been spared to make it what it professes to be, namely, a dictionary of names. It is only necessary to open such a volume and turn to the letter of the alphabet under which the information sought naturally falls. But compilers of directories in Japan seem deliberately to set themselves the task of confusing their readers. They begin by dividing the foreign residents of Japan into Settlements, instead of alphabetical classes, and they then proceed to give these divisions a more labyrinthine aspect by mixing them up with a variety of subjects which belong rather to an almanack or lexicon than to a directory. This perplexing arrangement and superfluity of detail reached a maximum in the case of the Japan Gazette Directory for 1883. During the first few weeks that we were obliged to use it, every reference to its mixtum-gatherum of contents

was preceded by a shudder of anticipation, until by patient practice one acquired sufficient dexterity to find what one wanted without bestowing a series of back-handed blessings on the compilers. Misguided enthusiasm may become an intolerable nuisance under certain circumstances. Thus if a policeman, being appealed to for information about the route by a man in a hurry, were to interlard his explanation with descriptions of the social habits of the neighbourhood and the average rainfall in inches, his questioner would immediately set him down as a benevolent but badly-balanced blue-coat, and would be careful to make no subsequent demands on his local knowledge. But in Yokohama people were still more unfortunate, for they had no choice but to come back, time after time, to this garrulous and bewildering indicator. While there were two directories, they exercised some check upon one another's diffuseness; but after the first had been driven out of the field through the laziness of its publishers, the second became so puffed up with the honours of monopoly, that its authors branched out into all sorts of unprecedented directions, and the good people of Yokohama were at last obliged to pay five dollars for the privilege of picking out their six hundred names from a volume nearly as large as *Peter Parley's Annual*. Doubtless the public's first sentiment ought to have been gratitude for the labour bestowed on their behalf, but they probably thought that having paid five dollars, they had a right to criticise the quality of the labour, and their criticism was exceedingly out-spoken. For these reasons we were heartily glad when Meiklejohn & Co. rescued us from a deal of unnecessary toil and torment by publishing a handy little map of Yokohama with an alphabetical list of residents. This was a step in the right direction, and we hoped that it was only a preliminary step. But Meiklejohn & Co. have evidently failed to grasp the situation. They have published a directory for 1884, which, with some trifling exceptions, presents the same faults as the Japan Directory. True the new volume only costs two dollars (less than half of the unconscionable price of its rival); its dimensions are much handier, and it is supplemented by a business diary, which, in itself, is an immense attraction. But in other respects it is pitifully conservative. We have, first, pages of advertisements, calendars, tariffs, and other matter, after which we come to the Yokohama directory, arranged in numerical order; then to the Tokiyo, Hiyogo, &c., directories arranged in a sort of half-hearted alphabetical order, and, finally, to eight separate alphabetical lists of residents at the various open ports and in the interior. Just conceive what this means for a man who seeks the address of a foreigner residing in Japan but possesses no farther knowledge of his whereabouts. He may be obliged, first to turn over the pages of the directory until he comes to the alphabetical lists, and then to search through eight of these lists before he finds what he wants. In this respect, indeed, Meiklejohn's Directory is at a disadvantage compared with its rival, for the latter, among its heterogeneous contents, provides its readers with an alphabetical list of all the foreigners in Japan, whereas Meiklejohn has not taken the trouble to summarize his local lists. It is truly disappointing that of those who busy themselves about the publication of directories in Yokohama, no one seems capable of evolving a really practical

arrangement. What we want is a small handy volume, opening, not with advertisements or tariffs, but with a general alphabetical list of all the foreign residents in Japan, the Japanese officials, and the Japanese merchants at the open ports. After this should come separate numerical lists for the various settlements, and then tariffs, exchange tables, postal rates, and so forth. A judicious colouring of the edges would add much to the ease of using the volume, and save one from finding oneself engaged in a struggle with signal codes or catalogues of Tokugawa Shoguns when the object of search is a ship-chandler in Hiyogo or a publican in Yokohama. Meiklejohn's directory is full of valuable information, but it wants re-arrangement. We cannot hope, however, for anything better during 1884, so in the meanwhile we congratulate the public on being enabled to get something like what they want without having to pay a monopoly price for it.

THE recent fire at Akasaka seems to have had its origin in a very sad affair. A postman residing at the scene of the conflagration had an aged mother whose one desire was to spend the last days of her life in her native village, and be buried in the cemetery of the temple where the bones of her ancestors had found a resting-place through many generations. Her husband had been one of those who, in the social changes that succeeded the abolition of feudalism, saw himself reduced from comparative opulence to a pittance which came in the form of a yearly pension that died with him. The son's earnings as a postman were small, but he supplemented them by sundry household industries, so that, in the course of two or three years, he managed to amass a sum of fifty *yen*. This would have sufficed to accomplish his mother's wish, and it was accordingly arranged that she should leave Tokiyo for her native place in the spring. But on the night of the 28th of December, during her son's absence on his rounds, the old lady, cowering over a brazier, saw that a portion of the quilt with which she was covered had caught fire. She sprang up, and thinking she could conquer the flames without assistance, set herself silently to do battle with them. But the struggle was too unequal, and when the neighbours saw the light of the conflagration making its way through the roof, the old woman was past calling out. Before the son came back his mother was dead, and the savings that were to have carried her home had been reduced to ashes with all rest of the his worldly possessions.

In latest obituary notices we read of the death of Charles Willam Siemens "scientist, engineer and electrician." The deceased died in London, from the effects of a fall, at the end of last month, at the age of sixty-three.

THE Report of Colonel Henderson says that not only is London the best protected city in the world as regards life and property, but it is safeguarded by a smaller force than capitals not half nor a third its size. The authorised strength of the police of the metropolis at the close of 1882 was 25 superintendents, 611 inspectors, 977 sergeants, and 10,086 constables, being a total of 11,699. The augmentations made during the year were six inspectors, 30 sergeants, and 429 constables. This may seem a considerable number, but the impression is altered by the coincident fact that during the year

23,301 houses were built, forming 508 new streets and one square, covering a distance of over 75 miles. The number of houses built and the area they embrace is somewhat less than the total for the two previous years; but, though a temporary diminution may suggest that the builder has moved in advance of the occupier, there are no signs of any probable decrease in the continuous extension of the metropolis. We have only to consider that the number of new houses added on last year to the bulk of London almost equalled the total in the city of Dublin, exclusive of the suburbs and outlying townships, to understand the rate at which this phenomenal city increases its monstrous growth. "Simple drunkenness" decreased from 8,567 in 1881 to 7,042 in 1882. Colonel Henderson adds to this that there was practically no serious alteration in the cases of drunkenness with disorderly conduct. This is what we should have expected. The disorderly drunkard is nineteen times out of twenty a thoroughly demoralised specimen of the habitual drunkard, who whenever he indulges his master vice displays the violent inspiration with which it fires him. But there seems to us a hard nut for the Teetotal Alliance to crack in the decrease of drunkenness from 8,567 cases in 1881 to 7,042 in 1882. This total decrease of 1,525 represents an enormous percentage, and should form the most crushing answer to the fanatics who want us to believe that the people cannot become sober of their own free will and motion, but must be led and driven to sobriety by platform agitation and penal legislation. Felonies increased during last year, and so did the arrests for these offences. There was on the other hand a decrease of burglaries from 470 to 437, but housebreaking, breaking into shops, and the like, increased from 1,392 in 1881 to 1,764 in 1882. Repeated cautions more and more or less bitter experience appear to have little effect upon the careless householder, who not only persists in leaving his door or his window open as a temptation to the prowling thief, but increased the burglar's opportunity from 25,591 cases in 1881 to 26,097 in the year following. The total value of property stolen was £159,288, an increase of £42,102 over 1881, but the value of property recovered was £63,222, so that the loss was only £76,066 in 1882 as against £103,568 in 1881. The mysteries and perils of London remain last for notice. During last year 12,878 children under ten years of age and 3,961 adults were reported to the police as lost or missing; 7,538 children and 860 adults were found by the police. The remainder returned home or were found by their friends—all but 74 adults who committed suicide, and 124 adults and 12 children who have not been traced. Fifty-nine bodies of persons found dead and unknown were photographed. Fatal accidents in the streets increased from 127 to 147, the number of persons injured in the streets from 3,400 to 3,889. The number of stray dogs in the streets continues to decrease; but, all the same, as many as 16,721 of these animals were seized by the police during the year. Of the 18,659 deposits of lost property handed in by drivers and conductors, 10,031 were restored to the owners. Among the recoveries were three bonds for £1,000 each, a plate of silver weighing 1,034 oz., a diamond valued at £5,000, and bank-notes £850. On the hand, other three bank-notes for £50 each and several other valuable deposits remained unclaimed, and were returned to the finders.—*Morning Advertiser*.

News by the American mail with regard to the destruction of Hicks Pacha's army, is very circumstantial. The accounts of the disaster are still a little vague, but the balance of testimony is that when Hicks reached Namua, near the Obeid hills, he detached a considerable portion of his force and sent it forward to demand the surrender of El Obeid. The false prophet, El Mahdi, who was advancing from the south-east, met these troops and invited them to surrender, but they replied by opening fire. Attracted by the firing, General Hicks pushed up with the rest of the army, and the whole force forming square, received the enemy's charge. The victory that day seems to have remained with Hicks Pacha, but whether the battle was renewed the following morning on the same spot, or whether, as *The Times* and *Standard* say, he was enticed into a defile without water, and there annihilated after three days' continued fighting, does not seem to be yet definitely known. According to the intelligence first received, the only man who escaped, of the 10,500 composing the ill-fated army, was either Power or Edmund O'Donovan, the well known correspondent of the *Daily News*, whose imprisonment at Merv, and the six months of regal power he exercised there, created so much excitement a few years ago. It seems probable, however, that this estimate was exaggerated, and that General Hicks, with perhaps some of the nine European officers who accompanied him, succeeded in saving their lives. The names of these officers were:—Colonel Farquhar, Chief of the Staff; Majors Warner, Seckendorf, Evans, and Massey; Captains Heath and Walker; Surgeon-Major Rosenberg, and Captain Herlth, an Austrian, who formerly commanded an Uhlan regiment and was superintendent of drill in Hicks' army. The force originally consisted of 7,000 Egyptian troops, among whom was the First Regiment of Egyptian Infantry, which was formerly under the command of Arabi Pacha. It is said that this regiment regarded the campaign as a sort of punishment and never had any stomach for hard work. Hicks reached Khartoum about the beginning of July, and there awaited reinforcements, so that when he marched out of the city on the 19th of September, his army consisted of 8,600 regular infantry, 1,400 cavalry (of whom 100 were cuirassiers; the remainder Bashi-Bazouks); one battery of Krupp guns; two batteries of mountain guns, and one battery of Nordenfeldts—about 10,500 men of all arms. Khartoum lies at the junction of the White Nile and the Blue Nile, and the original idea seems to have been to maintain communication with the river by establishing a line of fortified posts. For several reasons, however, this plan had to be abandoned, and the army, cut off from its base of operations, had to depend for sixty days on biscuits and whatever it could find *en route*. The heat appears to have been intense, and water was found, for the most part, on the surface in the ground depressions. El Mahdi's force was believed to number about twelve thousand, and the intention was to force a decisive battle with him as soon as possible. Now, however, it is thought that he had with him a much more numerous army, variously estimated at from 25,000 to 300,000. General Hicks' march was a most daring business. Having on his right the impassable Libyan Desert, while his left was constantly exposed to the attacks of

Abyssinian tribes, he travelled more than eleven hundred miles over a difficult and almost unknown country, taking the bank of the Nile for a guide and depending upon native scouts and spies for information. The scene of the battle was two hundred miles from Khartoum, and defeat meant destruction for Hicks' army. It is believed that El Mahdi's victory will so augment his prestige and elate his followers that his advance upon Cairo may be expected. Khartoum is a place of some importance, and has about forty thousand inhabitants. It is about 900 miles from Cairo. The Khedive, on receipt of the disastrous news, ordered the évacuation of all the posts on the White Nile and the concentration of their garrisons in Khartoum, but it is said that the majority of the inhabitants of that city sympathize with the False Prophet and will certainly receive him with open arms after his recent victory. The London journals are unanimous in condemning the idea of withdrawing the troops from Egypt at this juncture. *The Daily Telegraph* thinks that British military prestige alone can arrest the progress of El Mahdi's arms, and *The Times* says: "We cannot believe that Mr. Gladstone will wilfully and blindly persist in weakening the small British force now in Egypt. The broad highway of the Nile Valley is now open to the victorious fanatics. What is there to prevent the garrisons and the populations at the advanced posts from yielding to the temptations of El Mahdi? Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues must understand that England will hold them answerable if, by further errors of judgment, Egypt is allowed to relapse into anarchy, aggravated by the passions of religious fanaticism and the maddening influence of invasion by the barbarism of the interior of Africa." We observe, however, that two days after the above details were published the following telegram was received:—

Cairo, November 25th.

The Governor of Khartoum telegraphs that two chiefs state the report of the defeat of Hicks Pacha is false; that Hicks Pacha is at El Obeid, and that El Mahdi has been killed.

This, taken in conjunction with Reuter's recent announcement that Hicks Pacha is safe, justifies a hope that the reported disaster may not have occurred after all. On the other hand, it is quite possible that the telegram from the Governor of Khartoum may have been sent in the interest of the False Prophet himself.

A FINE tumulus which occupied a conspicuous site in the old churchyard at Taplow, near Maidenhead, has just been opened by members of the Berkshire Archaeological Society, and found to contain relics equal in value and archaeological interest to any of the Saxon period yet found in England. The digging was carried to a depth of twenty feet, where a quantity of gold fringe was found, followed by the discovery of a male interment. The body had evidently been placed on its back, with the head lying eastward. A circular shield of wood, cased with bronze, of two feet diameter, rested on the lap. On the shield lay two drinking horns, shaped somewhat like the early feudal horn, lipped with gilt silver, the terminals being of gilded silver, elegantly mitred and figured. Two mitre-shaped armlets of ornamental gilt silver were also found on the shield. Some glass vessels were found near, together with a circular tub stamped with a peculiar Pagan design, the horse shoe. The usual warlike weapons lay alongside the dead.

As the gold fringe was found spread in strips about the grave it is pretty clear that it formed a frilling to the corpse. Some shreds of the gold fibre were ten inches in length. Other ornaments have been found, including a brooch buckle, weighing four ounces, and being four inches in length, made of pure gold chastely wrought and neatly jewelled. Two smaller and elegantly-wrought buckles, and some other objects in bronze were found, but nothing has yet been discovered which sufficiently bears the character of a helmet.—*London and China Express*.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following curious data, for the accuracy of which, however, he refuses to vouch:—According to a numerical calculation based upon the number of the new year, 1884 will not be a year of calamities. The first half of the year will be more unfortunate than the second, but none of the months are destined to be fraught with untoward events. The most unlucky months are February and September, the most unlucky day in the year September 20th, the most unfortunate hour of the day 8 a.m. The most unpropitious day of each month is the eleventh. Combinations of 2, 9, 11, and 20 are to be avoided, and no important undertakings should be commenced on any of these days. 209 is a number of peculiar ill-omen during the coming year, and buyers of lottery-tickets are advised to steer clear of it. Mercury and Neptune are the two planets which most immediately affect human affairs, and have a sinister influence, while Mars and Jupiter are propitious. This portends misfortune to seafaring people and danger from fire, while the propitious conjunction of Mars and Jupiter should signify an immunity from great wars. Planetary influence will be unusually strong, but the fortunate conjunction of Mars and Jupiter will counteract the sinister bearing of Mercury and Neptune.

THE Colonies and India tells of a new substitute for coffee and cocoa. It says that the kola nut, which has claimed attention from time to time as a remarkable stimulant, rivalling the celebrated coca leaves as a means of sustaining long periods of fast and severe exertion, now comes forward in a new character. Dr. Neish, of Port Royal, Jamaica, reports that the value of these nuts is enhanced by the fact that citrate of caffeine—a medicine now much employed for the relief of sea-sickness, megrim, and other nervous complaints—can be readily obtained from them, for the reason that they actually contain more caffeine than coffee berries. Another advantage is that in the kola nut the caffeine is in the free or uncombined state. These nuts seem therefore likely to take their place in the market as furnishing a nutritive and stimulant beverage. Besides being rich in the active principle of coffee, and containing also a large proportion of the obromine, the active principle of cacao, these nuts, in addition, contain three times the percentage of starch contained in chocolate; and, moreover, they also contain less fat, so that, in addition to stimulant and nutritive properties, there is the probability that a chocolate prepared from them will more readily agree with delicate stomachs. Mr. D. Morris warmly supports Dr. Neish's suggestion as a very appropriate one. Both the cacao and kola belong to the same natural order, *Sterculiaceæ*, and the habits and characteristics of the two trees are very similar. They both effect low warm situations, and, in view of the probable demand for kola nuts, attention might

very well be given to their cultivation. The tree is already cultivated to a considerable extent in Jamaica, where it is known under the name of byssi, and its nuts seem likely to become quite a valuable product.

THE *Nagasaki Express* of the 29th Dec., says:—The British barque *Gitanilla*, Capt. F. Taylor, a local-owned vessel, which left Shanghai in ballast on the 18th November, bound to this port, and of whose safety doubts were beginning to be entertained, has, we are glad to hear, arrived safely at Kobe, having been prevented from making this port by a long succession of strong head winds and current. She is now on her way here *via* the Inland Sea.—The first Korean-owned trading vessel to visit Japan, the *Ko-koku Maru*, a schooner of 87 tons, arrived here on Tuesday last, from Gensan, with a general cargo, consisting of hides, seaweed, linen, gall-nuts, etc. She is commanded by a Japanese captain, with a crew of thirteen Koreans. It is reported that she left Gensan on the 20th September, which seems almost incredible, unless she has since that time been occupied in collecting her cargo along the coast.

THE telegram which we publish this morning with regard to the course advocated by the press of Paris has an ugly look. It seems as though France were steadily drifting into war with China. A few months ago the prospect of such a conjuncture was regarded by the bulk of the people with extreme disfavour, and the general impression conveyed by the tone of the newspapers was that the Government's existence depended on its ability to avoid a rupture with the Middle Kingdom. But ever since M. Ferry's remarkably outspoken vindication of his policy and the vote of confidence he obtained from the Deputies, the complexion of affairs has completely changed. The Cabinet is left to pursue its way undisturbed, and that way leads directly to war. The President of the Council made it quite plain in his speech of October the 30th that the foreign policy of France under her present administrators is to be conducted in a spirit of speculative adventure, and that the bourn of her endeavours is the acquisition of distant territories which she will bequeath to succeeding generations. The sentiment which dictates this programme is doubtless very respectable from a paternal point of view, but its morality is dubious, and its consequences are not unlikely to be inconvenient. When a great nation, with an immense army and a powerful navy, persuades itself that its immediate mission is to make investments for posterity by planting colonies in the territories of other States, there is always a danger that its views may excite selfish opposition. The limits, too, of such a programme are apt to be developed by circumstances to an extent not originally contemplated. Not long ago the French journals were calling upon the Ministry to negotiate with China on the basis of the Bourée Convention; in other words, to restrict their scheme of occupation in Tonquin to the district lying south of the Red River. Now the same journals are recommending the occupation of Formosa, Hainan, and Chusan, as a guarantee for the expenses of a war, in which, if we may accept the avowals of M. Ferry himself, China fights in defence of the first right of every independent country—the right to determine who shall, and who shall not, have permanent

access to her territories. These three islands, Formosa, Hainan, and Chusan, are places of inestimable importance to the Chinese empire, and their occupation by France, whether as a temporary or a permanent measure, would be a step the Court at Peking could not contemplate without the greatest uneasiness. It would be a step, too, so exactly in accordance with the policy of patriotic extension announced by M. Ferry and pursued in Annam, that were the islands once occupied by France, their evacuation might only be looked for on terms which China could not possibly accept. At all events, it is plain that whatever may be the merits of the Tonquin question, its issue is entirely beyond forecast so long as France remains in her present mood. She means to have colonies, and her appetite, which six months ago, would have been satisfied with the delta of the Red River, is now so keen that Hainan, Formosa, and Chusan seem little more than a mouthful. Apart from the rights and wrongs of the business, the seizure of these islands would probably be the very wisest measure she could adopt. It is plain that campaigning in Tonquin presents immense difficulties, and that China is in a position to offer a very stout resistance there. But the occupation of Formosa, Hainan, and Chusan is a different thing. The French troops would meet with no appreciable opposition in the undertaking, and once established there, they might dictate their own terms. Selfishly speaking, no solution of the deadlock could be more agreeable to foreigners in the East. Permanent French colonies in this part of the world would be so many active factors of civilization and commerce; and for our own part we should like to see not only the whole of Tonquin, but also the three islands in question shown henceforth in the map of the world as French territory. But there are many highly unpleasant contingencies to be contemplated before such a result could be finally attained.

WHEN the English and French, uninvited guests, knocked at the gates of Peking twenty-three years since, ten thousand men were sufficient to enforce an entrance. Now-a-days it would take certainly twice that number to approach the walls of the big city. Western learning has been forced upon the Orient, and the East has learned fairly well, if unwillingly. Taciturn China has now a word or two to say. We read, for instance, in a trustworthy English journal, that the Marquis Tsêng regards hostilities with France as unfortunately probable. He confronts the probability with anxiety, but without fear. "Forty thousand Frenchmen," he says, "would not suffice to beat us." If the French won the first battles the Empire might split into several Governments. But these Governments would be united for the purpose of resistance, and would be as formidable in this combination as if the Empire remained unbroken. The Black Flags in Tonquin now number eleven thousand, and have many reserves on the Upper Red River; and in the case of war breaking out, China, Annam, and Tonquin would make common cause. There is a good deal in all this of speculation, and war carries with it uncertainties which are not in the habit of adapting themselves to the best informed and most diplomatic estimate of probabilities. As to the attitude which the other European Powers would assume in the case of hostilities breaking out between France and China, the Marquis Tsêng, who in prudence might give lessons to many European states-

men, declines to say anything. He contents himself with pointing out that war would do those Powers incalculable damage. With respect to the Tricou despatch, the Marquis charitably assumes that the statement that he was disavowed by the authorities at Peking is due to some misunderstanding. Li Hung-chang has no power to treat on foreign matters, and is not the Marquis's superior. It is natural to suppose that some conversational remarks of his were misunderstood. There are many instances in the history of our relations with China of serious mistakes arising out of the difficulties which the want of a common language of diplomacy, and even of community of ideas between East and West, has occasioned. It is impossible to believe that M. Jules Ferry or M. Tricou would be capable of the gross fraud, sure soon to be detected, which any other interpretation of the incident would impute to them.

ACCORDING to the *New Zealand Herald*, the report of the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company of New Zealand, presented at the last general meeting, showed that the income, including the balance brought forward from last half-year, was £232,911 16s. 1d.; the general expenditure was £200,835 4s. 6d.; the balance to credit of profit and loss account at the close of the books was £32,076 11s. 7d., from which the directors recommended the payment of a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum (less interim dividend at 5 per cent. paid April last).

The Times, in its weekly telegram from India, says:—There appears to be a possibility, if not a probability, of an outbreak of war between Nepal and Tibet. The quarrel arose thus:—A custom prevails at Lhasa that for the first two months of the year a kind of carnival is held, during which the Ministers retire from the cares of State and make over their duties to the monks of the three great monasteries. In the course of the last carnival the monks of the great Debang Monastery, who number some seven thousand men, and appear to be very disorderly, took advantage of their temporary authority to plunder the Nepalese traders in Lhasa to the extent, it is said, of seventy lakhs. The Nepalese Government demands compensation for its subjects. The two Chinese Ampas or Imperial Residents at Lhasa have attempted to mediate, proposing that one-fourth of the damage occasioned should be made good by the Chinese Government, one-fourth by the Lhasa Government, and one-fourth by the Debang monks, and that the plundered traders should be content to bear the loss of the remaining fourth. Nepal rejected this proposal, and sent an officer to demand full restitution. This officer was seized and detained by the Debang monks. Nepal has now proposed that representatives of both Governments should meet at the frontier and try to come to terms. It is hoped that matters may thus be peacefully arranged. Meanwhile, the Nepalese are strengthening their frontier forts.

WHILE General Hicks was leading his little army into the desert to fight an enemy of whose strength he was quite uncertain, public interest was but little excited about his progress, but now that his name is associated with a disaster second only to the massacre of the Cabul expeditionary force, everybody is asking who he was and by what chain of incidents he came to command

an Egyptian force in the Soudan. His story, however, seems to have been a very simple one. His first experience in the field was gained fighting against the Sepoys, in the service of the East India company, and he afterwards served in Abyssinia with distinction. In character he is said to have resembled Chinese Gordon, and when he offered his sword to the Khedive for the subjugation of the Soudan, no one supposed that he was actuated by any sentiment of reckless ambition. But the Egyptian campaign could scarcely be called complete so long as the Moslems fighting for the False Prophet were daily growing stronger and threatening a descent even upon Cairo, and General Hicks is believed to have thought that an enterprise of this sort fell as much in the way of his duty as anything else. The first news of his terrible fate elicited the fact that more than one critic had prophesied disaster for him, and we shall doubtless hear a good deal of his recklessness in separating himself from his base of supplies, and of the hopelessness of leading a half-disciplined force into difficulties that would have taxed the endurance of hardened veterans. But Ismail Pacha's explanation of the catastrophe is probably the true one. "Hicks could never have succeeded," said the ex-Khedive, "with such material as he commanded. Egyptian soldiers, more than any other soldiers, need a flag, military music, and all the *fédt* of war. Without these they cannot—will not fight." General Hicks was not the sort of man to deceive himself about the stuff his troops were made of, but neither was he the man to turn back because success looked difficult. It may turn out that instead of being annihilated himself, he has annihilated El Mahdi, but our latest telegram with regard to the fortification of Suakin looks ominous. Suakin, the only important Egyptian harbour on the Red Sea, is the point from which the Soudan is most easily reached. A camel journey of twenty days takes the traveller to Berber, whence the journey to Khartoum is made by river in small steamers. A railway from Suakin to Berber was formerly projected, but afterwards abandoned as its paying prospects were very doubtful. Had General Hicks' campaign succeeded, there would have been no reason to fortify Suakin at present, but if the victory was with the False Prophet, the rebel tribes would soon have found their way to the neighbourhood of the town. It is said that on receiving the news of the disaster, Sir Evelyn Baring advised the Egyptian Government to abandon the Soudan, and establish a strong frontier line from Khartoum to Suakin, but it seems scarcely likely that England will be content with defensive measures. Any successes which the False Prophet gains in the Soudan will merely be regarded by him as preliminaries to more extensive operations, and Great Britain has very solid reasons for desiring to see the Mussulman authority reasserted before the revolt spreads any farther. Turkey, too, is closely concerned, and we shall not be surprised to learn that the task of restoring order will ultimately be undertaken by her with English assistance. At any rate, it is plain that the fates have conspired against Mr. Gladstone. The removal of the English forces from Egypt must now be postponed *sine die*. The story of El Mahdi, the False Prophet, is thus told by the *New York Herald* :—

Mohammed Ahmed, the False Prophet of the Soudan, was born at Dongala, memorable as the place where Ismail Pacha Saddyke, the Monfettish and late

Finance Minister of the ex-Khedive, was put in a sack along with some stones, and the sack being sewed up, was thrown into the Nile. The Mahdi's father was named Mohammed, and was a carpenter. Young Ahmed followed his father's calling and became very skilful in the art of boat building. When his father died he went to Senaar—to the south-east of Khartoum—where he continued the carpenter business, but where he was so lucky, or perhaps unlucky, as to cut off the ends of the fingers of his left hand. This mishap, however, proved to be the making of young Ahmed, for he now fulfilled all the conditions of the prophecy alluded to elsewhere.

Ahmed knew how to read and write and possessed a certain eloquence. He gave up carpentering and took to reading the Koran in the public places and haranguing the crowd. He then travelled all about the country, making "stump speeches" on religious subjects. The people used to listen to him at first through curiosity. Soon he made himself respected, and in a few years he acquired an enormous ascendancy over his ignorant followers, who had never before heard such an orator. People used to come on foot hundreds of miles to see him. The Sheikh travelled about like a second Peter the Hermit; but, unlike Peter, he gave himself up to personal ambition. There was a constant rivalry among his hearers as to who could lay before Sheikh Ahmed the richest offering. The prudent Sheikh stored up these presents, and having become wealthy he set himself up as a prophet. The motto which he adopted was, "The whole world shall follow me and obey me." Endowed with no ordinary imagination, he uttered certain predictions to which his credulous but already submissive disciples attached implicit faith. According to one of his prophecies, on November 12, the first day of the new Mussulman century—1300 after the Hegira—he himself was to be proclaimed, at Khartoum, Prophet and Ruler of the Soudan. Having convinced his followers that he was in direct communication with the Almighty, he used, while addressing them, suddenly to become silent, and, closing his eyes, to remain motionless for several minutes. He carried this trick to such perfection that not the slightest movement was perceptible while he simulated coma, after which he appeared to recover from a state of profound lethargy, cast wondering glances around him, and exclaimed, with an air of conviction:—"I come from Paradise, where I have been with Allah and His Prophet. How I would like to tell you of all I saw and heard! but you would not be able to understand it." His followers became so devoted to him that at a signal from him they were ready to sacrifice their lives.

Five years ago he withdrew himself from his followers and became a hermit, thus seeking to involve his very existence in mystery. This proceeding at once increased his fame. From Zaouia to Zaouia of the Senoussia, and consequently from Mecca to Morocco, the attention of the faithful was assiduously called to the following prophecy :—

"On the 1st of the month of Moharrem, in the year 1300 (November 12, 1882), will appear El Mahdi or Messiah. He will be exactly forty years of age, and of noble bearing. One arm will be longer than the other. His father's name will be Mohammed and his mother's name Fatima, and he will be hidden for a time prior to his manifestation."

Ultimately El Mahdi came forth from his retirement and stationed himself on the Island of Abba in the White Nile. He absolved his followers from all allegiance to earthly potentates and announced himself as the successor of Mohammed. This involved their refusal to pay tribute.

The first active rebellion broke out on the 12th of August, 1881, at the Island of Abba. On this occasion, thanks to the incredible stupidity of the officer in command, the Egyptian troops who were sent to arrest the Mahdi not only failed in their object, but lost 120 men. After this the Mahdi left his home on the Island of Abba and crossed the White Nile into Kordofan. During the next ten months repeated attempts were made to arrest the False Prophet, but, owing to bad management and the employment of insufficient forces, always with the same result—complete failure. During this time the Egyptians lost at one place or another 1,200 men and an equal number of rifles. Finding that the insurrection was spreading rapidly, it was at length judged necessary to make a serious effort. Accordingly, in the beginning of June, 1882, Yusef Pacha left Fashoda at the head of 4,400 men, with four mountain guns and a rocket, for Ghebel Gadir, where Mohammed Achmet was then residing. On the way he met the rebels, and, thanks to his neglect of the most elementary rules of warfare, he was completely defeated, with the loss of 3,600 men and all his guns. Of the 800 men who escaped at the time the greater part were subsequently captured and sold into slavery. City after city capitulated to the False Prophet, the greatest of his successes being the capture of El Obeid.

When El Mahdi, the False Prophet, appeared in the Soudan, announcing his divine mission after the fashion of Mohammed, travellers in that country were a unit in expressing the belief that the Egyptian campaign of Sir Garnet Wolseley would be child's play compared with the religious uprising in the Valley of the White Nile. The reasons for this belief were very simple, and they have been justified by the overwhelming defeat of Hicks Pacha. The disaffection and restlessness among the Arab tribes date back many years, and may be said to have begun

when Khartoum was founded by Mohammed Ali as a military post; and, being at the confluence of the Blue and White Niles, was a strategic point commanding the water courses to Central Africa. This city, the largest in Northern Central Africa, contains a mixed population of 40,000, embracing as goddess a set of ruffians of all shades of color, moral and physical, as were ever brought together.

Khartoum became not only the capital of the slave trade, with all its numberless horrors, but was also the penal colony where murderers, highwaymen, and every species of scoundrel—Turkish, Frank, Egyptian, Arab and native—were permitted to roam at will, and often obtain high place in the government employ. Khartoum became the seat of central authority of all that region between Berber and the Equatorial lakes, with indefinite boundaries on the west and south. This whole tract was divided into nine provinces, with a separate governor for each province, these various territorial divisions having the supreme head in the Governor-General at Khartoum, a post second only in authority and emoluments to that of the Khedive himself. It is this official, represented in the various persons holding the place, who is more to blame for the present state of affairs in the Soudan than can be assigned to any source.

THE *New York Herald* says :—The difficulties in China are likely to give rise to many cases involving personal and property rights of American citizens in that country. Jurisdiction of such cases is now vested in the American Minister, consuls and commercial agents there. These officers are clothed with extraordinary judicial powers to determine issues touching not only the property, but also the life and liberty of citizens of the United States. They are appointed to their diplomatic and consular positions without any reference to their qualifications for judicial duties, and, as a rule, they are utterly incompetent and unfit to perform such duties. It is well known that this mongrel system of administering law has been fruitful of flagrant abuses, which are now likely to increase in consequence of the pending war. Efforts were made last winter by the State Department and in Congress to remedy this matter. A Bill was favourably reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations by Senator Pendleton, embodying a reasonably complete code of civil and criminal law for the government of citizens of the United States in Eastern countries. It specified crimes and fixed punishments. It defined civil rights and prescribed remedies. It provided for the establishment of Courts and the appointment of judges. It should have been passed by Congress, but was not. The subject has now assumed a new importance, and will demand the earnest attention of Congress as soon as that body meets.

THE *New York Maritime Register*, referring to a vessel now making a voyage to this country, from that port, says :—The ship *Kennebec* (new, 2,126 tons), Captain Foard, sailed from Bath, Me., October 20th, discharged 550 tons ballast and loaded 78,700 cases oil and 100 tons merchandise and sailed for Japan 7 a.m. November 17th, 23 days from the time she left Bath. The above number of days include a detention of 4 (four) days consumed in moving ship from berth to berth and waiting for lighters.

THE *London Globe* says :—"Taking into consideration the anti-Chinese and anti-English feeling in Paris, Marquis Tseng thinks it better that his family should remain at Folkestone during the coming winter. The same class of French journals that denounced their Royal visitor as a 'Prussian spy,' now describe the Marquis as an 'English agent.' Both appellations are odious, and the result might easily be the same."

A NEW RAILWAY.

THE scheme formulated by the Minister of Finance in his recently issued Notification No. 47 is, in its main features, similar to the methods generally pursued in France with a corresponding object. That object, in the present case, is to connect Tokiyo and Saikiyo (Kiyoto) by a line of railway setting out from Takasaki and connecting, at Ogaki, with the road now in course of construction thither from Sekigahara. It will be remembered that the Tokiyo and Takasaki line is already open to within five miles of the latter place, and if the Finance Minister's plan matures, the last length of that line would probably be completed simultaneously with the commencement of the first section of the Takasaki and Ogaki road. It is scarcely necessary to discuss the prospects of this project as an industrial undertaking. Everyone is agreed that Japan stands in urgent need of facilities for internal transport, and a line of rails connecting the Eastern and Western Capitals constitutes the natural backbone of her railroad system. Such a line may, therefore, be regarded as a necessity. What remains to be considered is the method of obtaining funds for its construction.

The Finance Minister's plan is to sell interest-bearing bonds and apply the proceeds to defray the cost of construction. The rate of interest is to be seven per cent.; the quantities offered for sale, from time to time, are to be regulated by the requirements of the work; the upset price of the bonds is to be determined by the Minister, and there is to be no restriction with regard to the nationality of the purchaser.

At first sight two objections to this scheme forcibly present themselves. One is that, having regard to the rates of interest now ruling in Japan, the people's money cannot profitably be sunk in railways. The Government may not hope to borrow on better terms than those commanded by its scrip at present. Owing to currency contraction and the consequent stagnation of industry during the past two years, capital has been abnormally attracted towards public securities, the result being that loan-bonds which commanded from eleven to twelve per cent. interest in 1881, now produce little more than nine per cent. With the revival of industry—a revival which the construction of railways, amongst other things, cannot fail to stimulate—opportunities to use capital productively will increase, and speculation will be diverted from Government scrip until the interest on that class of investment reaches the higher level which will then rule generally. We may observe here that economical science does not wholly justify the favorable deductions which some Japanese financiers seem disposed to draw from reduced rates of interest. The rate of interest depends on the supply of capital in all forms suited to productive

uses, compared with the opportunity to use capital productively. In a country where industry is depressed owing to such a cause as currency contraction, there may be a low rate of interest with a small supply of capital; while, on the other hand, there may be a high rate of interest with a large supply of capital in a country where natural resources are abundant and the spirit of enterprise is continually incited by success. Simultaneously with the reawakening of industry and commerce in Japan, we look to see the demand for capital increase and the price paid for its use augment correspondingly. Thus, though seven-per-cent. railway bonds could probably be issued now at 75 (since ten-per-cent. pension bonds are quoted at 107), their price in the near future might, and probably would, fall to 70 or even 65. On the whole, it seems reasonable to estimate that the Government will have to pay at least ten per cent. on the proposed railway scrip, whereas money for the same purpose could undoubtedly be obtained in Europe at 8 per cent. What, then, are the reasons which induce the Minister of Finance to enter the dearer market in preference to the cheaper? Apparently they are two. First, the reluctance Japan feels, for political reasons, to incur any new obligations abroad. A foreign loan would undoubtedly be very unpopular at present. The spirit of independence, naturally strong among the Japanese, has been developed to almost romantic proportions by the arbitrary opposition its just aspirations encounter. We need not stop to consider how far this sentiment is morbid or unwarranted. It is enough to note its existence and the influence it necessarily exercises upon the councils of the Government. The second reason probably is that, by borrowing at home, there is a hope of obtaining the money in quantities determined by the needs of the moment. Assuming that the construction of the line is carried on simultaneously from both ends at a total rate of 40 miles a year and a cost of sixty thousand *yen* per mile, a simple calculation will show that by borrowing 2,400,000 *yen* per annum at ten per cent., the aggregate payments on account of interest at the end of 5 years would be 3,600,000 *yen*, and the aggregate sums borrowed twelve millions; whereas, if twelve millions were obtained at once in Europe, at 8 per cent., the aggregate payments on account of interest would amount, at the end of five years, to 4,800,000 *yen*. This difference is sufficiently important to dispose, in some degree, of the question of interest as between the home and foreign markets. It may fairly be hoped, also, that before five years have elapsed, considerable portions of the line will be earning enough to pay the interest on the cost of construction. We have seen that the Tokiyo-Kumagaye road is already netting from ten to twelve per cent., and that its takings are still capable of very large development. In

fact, should the Government be able to devote the earnings of the various lines throughout the country to pay the principal and interest of the money raised for their construction, we have little doubt that before many years Japan might easily be provided with a very tolerable net-work of railways.

The second consideration which suggests itself in connection with the scheme, is that inconvenience may result from the fixing of so much floating capital. This is a question which necessarily takes us into the region of speculation. How much capital may be available for commercial and industrial purposes in Japan we have no means of ascertaining. It is believed by Japanese financiers, whose sources of information are exceptionally good, that gold and silver to the value of fully fifty million dollars are lying idle in godowns or otherwise hoarded throughout the country, and that the owners of this virtually buried wealth will be tempted by the opportunity of investing it in Government scrip at a good rate of interest. If this result be attained—and certainly the Government's greatly improved credit must count for something in the prospect—the country will be a direct gainer by the utilizing of so much unemployed capital. But if, on the other hand, capital already seeking investment is diverted, in any considerable quantities, toward railway scrip, the revival of trade may be deferred by the consequent scarcity of the money supply. This country has many natural advantages, and what it chiefly needs is capital to furnish all the tools and materials which labour can profitably employ. The people have already suffered sorely by the cramping of industry and the fall in the price of produce consequent upon currency restriction. A foreign loan for the construction of railways and other public works would probably impart to enterprise and labour the stimulus of which they stand in urgent need, while a further diminution of the nation's floating capital seems a financial measure of very doubtful wisdom.

THE NEW PUBLIC LOAN-BONDS.

ON December the 28th there was issued, over the signatures of the First Minister of State and the Minister of Finance, a Notification (No. 48) providing for the issue of public loan-bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu*. In order to appreciate the force and intention of this measure, a brief retrospect of the history of Japanese fiat paper is necessary.

When *Kinsatsu* were first issued, in 1868, the credit of the Government, owing to causes which need not be recapitulated here, did not stand very high with the people. Little assurance was felt that official "promises to pay" in thirteen years—for that was the period originally fixed for redemption—would be redeemed at the date of their

maturity, 1881. These promissory notes therefore fell at once to a discount of nearly sixty per cent., and nothing but an exceptional exercise of arbitrary power forced them into circulation at all. Twelve months later, their volume was doubled, and this additional issue was accompanied by an announcement that the date of maturity should be anticipated by eight years. It was proclaimed, in short, that the notes should either be exchanged for specie in 1872, or that interest at the rate of six per cent. should be paid on the whole amount in circulation. Thenceforward the value of the fiat paper steadily appreciated—we again omit, as superfluous to our present purpose, an analysis of the agencies that combined to produce this result—until *Kinsatsu* circulated at par with silver. But when 1872 came, the Government evaded its engagement. Instead of adopting either of the promised alternatives, it invited the people to buy bonds redeemable within fifteen years, and bearing, in the meanwhile, interest at the rate of six per cent. in specie. The holders of *Kinsatsu* would scarcely have accepted this compromise without remonstrance, had they not already become quite reconciled to the fiduciary currency. Five years before, when the volume of *Kinsatsu* in circulation was but twenty-five millions, one hundred *yen* in paper represented only forty *yen* in silver. Now, with a volume of paper four times as large, the superiority of silver was practically unrecognized. But if the people gave themselves little concern about the Government's inability to pursue its promised programme, they were scarcely less indifferent to the new bonds. These found so few purchasers that in nine years scarcely five millions were disposed of. The reason of the unpopularity of these securities was not far to seek. They were in no respect a definite instrument for the resumption of specie payments. Such an instrument must be an actual tool of exchange; a cheque payable to bearer and transferable without difficulty. The bonds were by no means of this nature. The original holder of each was registered, and to him alone were the interest and principal payable. In a word, to purchase these bonds, a man must have been prepared to take the risk of losing the use of his capital for fifteen years, receiving in the interim, interest considerably below the market rate. It is true that, shortly afterwards, the Satsuma Rebellion, by recalling the circumstances under which fiat notes first made their appearance and attained their maximum depreciation, once more established a wide interval between the purchasing powers of *Kinsatsu* and silver. The specie bonds then presented some very attractive features to speculators, but to speculators only. They had no appreciable effect, nor could have any, on the mass of the note-holders. They did not in any degree help to restore *Kinsatsu* to their place as real money, nor did they even amount to a distinct acknow-

ledgement of the Government's liability to redeem its pledges. What followed is too familiar to need much comment. Industry and enterprise were crippled by a medium of exchange so unstable that it defied all calculation, while Japanese financiers confined themselves to speculative attempts to bolster up the credit of their notes—attempts which encouraged gambling and tended ultimately to intensify the mischief. Fortunately for the country this fatal policy was not pursued. The Finance Department, under new management, adopted a new programme, the three principal features of which were—to refrain from all speculative operations of exchange; to reduce the bulk of the *Kinsatsu* in circulation; and to accumulate a reserve in the Treasury for the ultimate resumption of specie payments. These measures, steadily pursued, have produced marked consequences. In two years the fiduciary currency has risen from a discount of 27 until it now circulates at a value only 9 per cent. less than that of silver. True, there are critics who pretend to believe that this is all unreal, referring it to some occult official devices for "bearing" specie. But the vagaries of such writers have no longer, we presume, any interest for rational men. Everything, even to a general readjustment of prices, goes to show that the appreciation of *Kinsatsu* is real, and the Notification referred to at the commencement of this article indicates the first definite step towards the resumption of specie payments.

We venture to refer here to some words of our own published in these columns eighteen months ago. We wrote:—"It seems to us that the course to be pursued is very clear. Return to specie payments must be effected by a series of redemptions. The first step would be the issue of interest-bearing bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu* to the amount of, say, thirty million *yen*. These should be redeemable with silver in thirty years (the quantities, periods, &c., here mentioned are, of course, arbitrary) by annual sums of two million *yen*. The bonds might be slightly different in form from the notes at present in use, but they should be manufactured with a careful regard to convenience of circulation. Those to be liquidated at par would be declared by lot once, twice, or even three times per annum, the successful numbers being payable in silver on demand." The principal features of this suggestion are exactly reproduced in the scheme now announced by the Minister of Finance. The "Redemption Bonds" are to bear an annual interest of six per cent. payable in specie; they are not to be registered or to carry the name of their holder, but to be transferable like ordinary bank-notes; they are to be of three denominations, one hundred, five hundred, and a thousand, *yen*; they are to circulate for five years unredeemed, and then to be redeemed by yearly draw-

ings extending over a period of thirty years.

The immediate effects of this measure will probably be almost imperceptible. As an investment, the Redemption Bonds offer no note-worthy attractions. Among foreigners they are not at all likely to find a market at the present rate of exchange, nor is the interest offered sufficient to tempt Japanese capitalists. What may be expected, however, is that they will to some extent take the place of *Kinsatsu* of large denominations, since they will be equally convenient as instruments of exchange and more valuable on account of the interest they bear.

But as a means of steadying the currency they cannot fail to perform a useful function. Should circumstances tend to bring about another depreciation of fiat notes, the Redemption Bonds will immediately be preferred as a circulating medium in all the larger transactions of trade. Further, their issue marks the Government's first practical acknowledgment of its liabilities, and at the same time establishes a tangible relation between *Kinsatsu* and metallic money. These are points of great importance. Disappointment will probably be expressed in some quarters that a more radical measure is not adopted, but nothing is more to be deprecated in this business than precipitancy. The contraction of the currency has already been carried on with dangerous rapidity, and for the present the efforts of the Finance Minister may wisely be limited to improving its stability. What is wanted is, not to withdraw *Kinsatsu* from circulation, but to make them exchangeable for, and therefore of equal value and stability with, specie.

TREATY REVISION.

THE Resolutions passed, on November the 3rd, at a general meeting of the non-official Japanese now residing in England and Scotland are, we believe, a fair expression of the opinions entertained by the educated classes in this country with regard to treaty revision. Years have gone by since this subject passed into a by-word, so much had been written and said about it, and so hopeless did the prospect seem of any settlement being arrived at. Many attempts have been made to show that the delay was not less attributable to Japanese unreadiness and mismanagement, than to foreign obstructiveness, but such arguments are as deficient in honesty as the policy they seek to extenuate is wanting in justice. The plain facts are that a combination of powerful States forcibly compelled Japan, eighteen years ago, to revise her tariff on a basis which should be again subject to revision in 1871, and that the same combination of States has ever since persisted in founding upon that original act of compulsion a claim to withhold from this country the right to manage her own fiscal affairs. We

are very well aware that there are some lovers of euphemisms who object to admit that the SHOGUN'S Government was subjected to any compulsion in these arrangements, and who would have the world believe that the concessions obtained by the Foreign Representatives in 1865 were quite voluntary, so far as the Japanese were concerned. Such scruples are intelligible enough, but they cannot be reconciled with history. European Governments, whether reluctant to submit their dealings with Japan to public scrutiny, or for some other reasons of high policy, have been for many years careful to depart, in her case, from the ordinary rule which prescribes the occasional publication of diplomatic correspondence. This secretive system had not, however, been inaugurated in 1866, and we are thus enabled to quote the words of Sir HARRY PARKES himself, who, speaking on behalf of his colleagues and describing the steps they had taken with a view to submitting their proposals to the Japanese, wrote thus to Earl RUSSELL:—"On considering the manner in which these proposals should be laid before the Government of the TYCOON, we were of opinion that our reference (to him) could be made more effectually by ourselves, provided we could proceed to the Bay of Osaka and be accompanied by an imposing naval force." It may, perhaps, be said that the object of the Foreign Representatives in causing themselves to be escorted by eight ships of war was simply to furnish employment to the English, French, and Dutch Fleets, and that nothing was farther from their thoughts than to intimidate the Japanese. But which of us is there who, if men came with blunderbusses in their hands and asked him to sign an agreement embodying conditions known to be distasteful to him, would agree that he was under no duress because his life was not verbally threatened? When the Doyen of the Foreign Representatives addressed to the Japanese Ministers at Osaka a despatch "demanding a prompt and satisfactory settlement of certain questions of grave importance arising out of the Convention of October 22nd, 1864," and when he concluded his despatch by calling attention to the fact that he was "accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief of all the naval forces of Her Britannic Majesty in China and Japan," and that his letter was "dated from that officers's flagship," the Japanese must have been singularly sanguine or curiously naïve if they mistook the alternative implied by his attitude in the event of their refusal to satisfy his demands.

The Convention here alluded to was that concluded after the Shimonoseki expedition. Amongst other things, it stipulated for the payment by the SHOGUN of an indemnity of three million dollars. Her Majesty's Government subsequently decided that "the general interests of trade and of foreign relations with Japan would be best

consulted by an arrangement which should absolve the Government of the TYCOON from two-thirds of the whole indemnity, provided, first that the port of Hiogo and the city of Osaka should be opened for the trade and residence of the subjects of the Treaty Powers on the 1st of January, 1866; secondly, that the sanction of the Mikado be formally given to the treaties already concluded by the TYCOON with the Treaty Powers; and thirdly, that the duties on imports into Japan be generally reduced to 5 per cent., and in no case exceed 10 per cent."¹ These were the three conditions to obtain which the Foreign Representatives visited Osaka, in 1865, with a combined fleet of English, French, and Dutch ships. They obtained two of them, and Sir HARRY PARKES, reporting this result to Earl RUSSELL wrote:—"I beg your Lordship to observe that the sanction to the Treaties and the revision of the Tariff, these being two of the three conditions for which Her Majesty's Government were willing to relinquish two-thirds of the indemnity due under the Convention of October 22nd, 1864, have been obtained." The third condition, the immediate opening of Hiogo and Osaka, was considered impossible in the then condition of affairs, and we now know that it would probably have led to serious trouble. The Foreign Representatives were therefore compelled to be satisfied with obtaining two of the concessions for which two-thirds of the indemnity was to have been remitted. But they did not remit a dollar.

See, then, the sequence of events. In 1864, "the hostile acts of a Japanese Daimyo assumed such formidable proportions as to make it difficult for the TYCOON faithfully to observe the treaties."² Four of the Treaty Powers accordingly undertook "the duty of chastising this rebellious Daimyo." As guerdon for their services they then imposed on the TAIKUN a fine of three million dollars. Subsequently, they announced their willingness to remit two-thirds of the fine if the Japanese Government would make them three concessions. The Japanese Government hesitated about the concessions, being, in fact, unable to guarantee them, but went on paying the instalments of the indemnity. The Treaty Powers sent eight men-of-war to Osaka to remind the TAIKUN that there was an alternative to the payment of the indemnity. The TAIKUN then accepted and fulfilled two of the three alternative conditions. Finally—the indemnity was exacted to the uttermost farthing, and one of the concessions obtained by the Foreign Representatives with their combined fleets was thenceforth regarded as conferring on the Treaty Powers a title to withhold from Japan in perpetuity the right of regulating her own tariff.

It is thus that every Japanese reads, and every fair-minded foreigner must also read,

the story of these events. They do not furnish any valid reason to impeach the motives or principles of the persons and powers chiefly concerned in them. That is altogether a different question. Humanity is so constituted that all creeds must adapt themselves to circumstances. But it would surprise us much to be told that the policy of duress and dictation which was considered applicable to Japan's semi-anarchic state in 1865, is to form the basis of her treatment by Western nations in 1883.

Those who have taken any trouble to watch the course of popular feeling in Japan during the past five years will readily endorse the statement embodied in the Langham Hotel Resolutions that the delay in the revision of the treaties is "endangering the continuance of the present good feeling towards foreigners." It has been frequently pointed out in these columns that the position of the present Government with regard to its foreign relations bears a striking resemblance to the some-time position of the SHOGUN'S Government. Twenty years ago, the most powerful weapon placed in the hands of the revolutionary party was the seemingly craven attitude of the Yedo Court towards Western nations; an attitude which, according to the creed of those days, was inconsistent with every patriotic dictate. At present, the Opposition has nothing stronger to urge against the Government than its apparent inability to obtain from Western Powers a practical recognition of Japan's independence. The people have either to believe that their rulers are singularly incompetent; or that rights exercised by every other free country in the universe are arbitrarily denied to Japan by civilized Europe. The vernacular press is gradually teaching its readers to accept the latter version of the dead-lock, and their disposition towards foreigners is not improved by the lesson; while at the same time, the Government's difficulty in pursuing a patient and conciliatory policy is becoming daily more formidable. Even the Japanese residing in Great Britain call for an "exercise of greater energy," implying that they are still disposed to blame their own Government's inability rather than foreign injustice. They do not hesitate, too, to indicate the route they would have pursued should it be found impossible to bring the negotiations to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion. "Proper steps must be taken to put an end to those portions of the existing Treaties which are detrimental to our national interests." In other words, Japan must repudiate the treaties, or such parts of them as impair her independent rights. This is an alternative from which the Government may well shrink until it has exhausted every conceivable expedient to arrive at an amicable understanding. The difficulties it has to contend with are great, but not invincible. Foremost among them is that coalition of Treaty Powers by which European Governments set so much store

¹ Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce, July 12th, 1865.

² Convention of October 22nd, 1864.

in former days. Not that there is any acknowledged disposition to overawe Japan by the irresistible strength of the coalition, but that it is almost hopeless for her to obtain an unanimous recognition of her rights from a dozen States each of which is as solicitous to consult the other's wishes as it is indifferent to this country's claims. That indifference, however, is certainly not attributable to a desire, or even a willingness, to be arbitrary or unjust. Even in England, which Japan has learned to regard as the most obdurate of her treaty friends, and which, having incomparably the largest interests at stake, is compelled to be the most chary of concession, there exists a spirit of fairness and liberality ready at any moment to find active expression if only it be properly appealed to. We believe that the chief cause of Japan's inability to obtain a recognition of her just claims is the ignorance which prevails among Europeans about everything that concerns her, and for this reason public expressions of opinion, such as that made at the Langham Hotel, cannot fail to produce a useful effect.

THE FRENCH ARMY.

Not long ago the condition of the French army was journalistically described with the aid of statistics which took the world somewhat by surprise, inasmuch as they showed that the numerical measure of France's military strength was no less than three and a half millions of men. Such a stupendous figure has no parallel since the days of XERXES, and, other things being tolerably equal, it was plain that the supremacy wrested from France twelve years ago must gravitate to her again by sheer force of numbers. More careful analysis, however, goes to show that these statistics must not be received without reserve. Captain NORMAN, writing in the last number of the *Nineteenth Century*, submits them to tests which altogether change the character of the impressions they convey. By the new system of military organization adopted by France in 1872, the country was divided into nineteen military districts, each having a population of about two millions, and each being again subdivided into eight sections, so that the total number of territorial divisions was 144. Throughout these divisions the liability to military service was to be absolutely universal for every male so soon as he arrived at the age of twenty years. Statistics showed that by this arrangement each district would furnish annually 16,000 conscripts, or, in other words, that 296,000 recruits would join the colours yearly from the first eighteen districts (the nineteenth being omitted as permanently occupying Algiers). Each man was to serve for 20 years, namely—five years with the colours; four, with the reserve of the active army; five in the territorial army, and six in the territorial reserve. As, however, the total strength of the army with the colours was fixed at 500,000, it became impossible to utilize the services of all the recruits legally available, and there was accordingly devised a system of exemptions which had the effect of reducing the 296,000 to 141,000—that is to say, 155,000

(more than half) of those liable were exempted. Even when thus reduced the annual contingent was unmanageably large, and a further reduction was effected by passing 47,000 into the reserve of the active army after they had served one year with the colours. Thus 93,000 men remained to be absorbed yearly by the permanent army and to serve five years with the colours. Yet again a reduction was effected by releasing infantry soldiers at the end of three years, keeping only these in the mounted or scientific branches for five. Having regard to these modifications the forces at the disposal of France may be divided into three great classes, thus:—

Trained men, i.e. those who have passed three years or upwards with the colours	837,000
Partly trained men, i.e. those who have served one year only	703,000
Untrained men, i.e. those who have escaped service altogether, though liable to be called up in the event of war	1,715,000

Of this force the number actually with the colours is 273,000, of whom 140,000 are in their first year of service; 140,000, in their second, and 93,000 in their third. It is also pointed out that as the amount and quality of daily training in the French army are far inferior to the standard laid down in Germany, the reserves of the former cannot be compared to the Landwehr.

Small as these figures look side by side with those recently published, it cannot be pretended that they do not represent an immense military organization—an organization which, thirty years ago, would have been regarded as a nine days' wonder. But the really weak point of the system appears to be the impossibility of keeping up the establishment in the superior grades. In England, one officer to thirty soldiers is considered the minimum; in Germany, the proportion is one officer to thirty-four trained men, and in France, it is nominally, one to twenty-eight. At present, however, the total number of regimental officers serving in the permanent army or borne on the rolls of the active reserve, is only 22,409, whereas 36,597 is the number required to place these forces on a war footing. The crippling effect of this deficiency becomes doubly apparent when we remember that there are 469,000 men, partially trained, with the colours and in the ranks of the First Reserve, who, in case of war would require earnest and unceasing attention in order to fit them to replace casualties. Turning again to the Territorial Army, which, consisting, as it does, of men who have completed nine years' service, may be said to form the backbone of military France, we find that the number of officers at present borne on the cadres of the regiments is only 9,835, whereas the number required to place these regiments on a war footing is 22,421. Thus the total deficiency in the establishment of officers is 27,000, irrespective of those who would be needed to train the million and a half men that have hitherto escaped service altogether.

A greater, and if possible, more serious, failure of the system is observable in the case of the non-commissioned officers. These men constitute the real nucleus of an army, and on their activity and intelligence its efficiency mainly depends. In nothing has the evil of short-service been felt more than in the difficulty it places in the way of obtaining a sufficient supply of experts to fill the non-commissioned ranks. In

England the bad consequences of Mr. CARDWELL'S "reforms" have been largely mitigated by rates of pay liberal enough to retain good men with the colours; and by the Great European States similar inducements are offered to prevent the retirement of capable soldiers and the consequent exercise of power by young men. But in France, the sergeant-major of a cavalry regiment receives only 2s. 3½d. a day, and the sergeant of a line battalion, 8½d. The result is that there are at present in the French army 24,000 *sous-officiers* who have not completed five years' service in the ranks, and 18,000 who have less than three years' service. In fact, instead of trying to attract *sous-officiers*, or to retain those she has, France puts a premium on the early retirement of her best men by permitting those that can pass an examination to escape further servitude at the expiration of one year in the ranks. Thus the posts of the non-commissioned officers "are filled by men from the lowest classes of society, men devoid of good education, and of those powers of command generated by habits of scholastic obedience." Captain NORMAN says that upwards of 18,000 vacancies occur annually among the *sous-officiers* of the permanent army, and are invariably filled by corporals of little more than one year's service. Yet to these men are entrusted powers of punishment equal to those possessed by officers commanding companies in the British army. No wonder that the consequences are fatal to discipline. The writer in the *Nineteenth Century* says that "in war, as in peace, the insubordination of the French private is a matter of history," and that under existing circumstances there springs up a laxity not infrequently culminating in what would be called mutiny by Englishmen. He instances several examples of this, amongst others the statements of the French officers themselves, that during the war of 1870 "they were compelled to shoot men down red-handed in order even temporarily to restore obedience," which summary executions received the sanction of a Government decree. It is to be feared that the course of the campaign in Tonquin has already furnished notable illustrations of this want of discipline. The story told in the *Figaro* of officers arguing with their men in order to restrain them from committing barbarous excesses, and being compelled at last to yield to the soldier's bloodthirsty logic, has a strange sound in English ears.

The spirit that prevails among the commissioned officers, also, is described as one of discontent and distrust. General THIBAUDIN'S elevation to the post of Minister of War will probably prove to have been a most unfortunate event. A junior general of division, his rank did not qualify him for an office which his military antecedents ought, under any circumstances, to have placed beyond his reach. He began by removing the Princes from the army; followed this by depriving General GALIFET of the chief command at the cavalry manœuvres; went on to issue a circular calling for the political opinions of all officers recommended for staff employ; soon let it be practically seen that only men of Republican views might look to fill important military posts; and finally extended this system of political tests even to the junior officers, so that the routine of promotion was entirely upset. The result has been an universal spread of discontent and the retirement of a great number of officers.

Captain NORMAN concludes his analysis with these words:—"The French organization reads well on paper; but we believe that the army, with the exception of the artillery, in which there is a most noticeable improvement, is in a worse condition than it was in 1870. Its permanent force is wanting in those soldierlike qualities which distinguished the regiments that used to march past the Emperor on the Champ de Mars. The reserves, who would be called out to bring the army up to war strength, are composed of half trained men, whose value has been seriously impaired by their severance from military discipline. The old feeling of comradeship amongst officers has been succeeded by mutual distrust, and *esprit de corps* amongst the men is also a thing of the past. Efficiency has been sacrificed to numbers, military capacity to political exigencies, and should war overtake France before she has realized and rectified the defects of her military organization, nothing can avert a disaster more crushing than that which befell her thirteen years ago." It is to be sincerely hoped that the one event which can effectually prove or disprove this analysis may never occur. We have too much faith in the better instincts of humanity and in the progress of civilization to suppose that war is the only teacher which can cure Europe of its military mania, and make the nations believe once more in the old maxim:—"Sæpe intereunt aliis meditantibus necem."

THE DIARY OF HENDRICK HEUSKEN (1856-1858).

(From the German of Dr. G. Wagener, in "Transactions of the German Asiatic Society of Japan" June, 1883).

The diary from which these extracts referring to Japan were taken, was given by Heusken's mother to Mr. Bouvy, of Amsterdam, and later through the kind offices of Mr. Eykman in Tokio, placed at the disposal of the German Asiatic Society in Japan. A careful inspection of these reminiscences, which are written in the French language, soon showed that they referred to the years 1856-8 which preceded the conclusion of the treaties with America, England, France, &c., and though they present no new facts of importance, they give us a more exact apprehension of Japanese circumstances and the *modus operandi* of the Government, than is the case with any other publication. On this account alone it seemed proper to publish these valuable papers for the benefit of a wider circle of readers; moreover, by this means a duty will also be fulfilled towards both Mr. Harris and Mr. Heusken, in bringing to remembrance and putting into clearer light the meritorious services of these two gentlemen in the opening of this country to foreign intercourse.

As to Mr. Heusken's personality and adventures, the work entitled "The Prussian Expedition to East Asia," Berlin, 1864, Vol. II., p. 145, contains the following item:—"Heusken (born Jan. 20, 1832, in Amsterdam), who sprang from a family in good position, and had enjoyed a youth amid wealth and happiness, soon learned all the bitterness of life through the sudden impoverishment and subsequent death of his father. He wrought bravely amid many discouragements to earn his subsistence, when accidentally he fell in with Mr. Harris who was just starting for Japan as Consul. From that time his fortune rose. He won the confidence of his superior, with whom he lived in seclusion for years in Shimoda, and from the fact that his assistance became indispensable in negotiating the treaties, his position grew in influence and importance. He lived in comfort, supported his mother by liberal contributions, and had the most flattering prospects for the future. One felt that he enjoyed life, all his surroundings bore evidences of

comfort. Before his little cottage home there smiled a picturesque garden, his well-lighted rooms were ornamented with well-selected specimens of Japanese art, his servants always appeared with faces indicative of satisfaction and cheerfulness."

This testimony is confirmed by many notices in his diary. His early misfortunes had left no trace of bitterness or narrowness in his fresh and youthful spirit; the account of his experiences give evidence of benevolence towards all men, magnanimity and a love of justice, joyous courage and confidence leave their impress on his diary. Only once he seems to have been overwhelmed with excusable anxiety, as he waited week after week with unwearied faithfulness at the bed-side of his superior, who, far from all help, lay at death's door.

It was natural that, with a character so happily endowed, Heusken should spend his days in satisfied contentment after having reached so great a result, which affected not only the United States but was also of great benefit to other countries as well.¹ He became a favourite with the members of the Prussian expedition on account of his social qualities. With his assistance, in spite of greater hindrances than those experienced by the English, Russians, &c., in negotiating their treaties in 1858, the Prussian Embassy had reached the point on the 14th of January, 1861, where everything was complete, and the Japanese had promised to receive the presents on the following day and also in a very short time to sign the treaty. Heusken had been the whole day at the Prussian Legation and remained for the evening. Everyone was in good spirits and specially grateful towards Heusken. At 9 p.m. he left on horseback; at 10 o'clock word came from Mr. Harris that Heusken lay severely wounded in his house. The physician of the expedition and several other gentlemen hastened to his side, but found him in a hopeless condition. A gaping sword wound, which laid bare the intestines, extended from near the navel across the lower abdomen almost to the hip. In consequence of loss of blood—Heusken had lain half an hour in the street, and medical help could not be obtained inside of an hour and a half—he died without pain. Harris wept bitterly by the body. It was afterwards found that the attack was made by seven or eight men armed with swords. January 18th, 1861, he was buried. The government sent word to the foreign Legations, that they had information of an intended attack on the funeral procession, and although they had taken steps to prevent it, they could guarantee nothing, and therefore earnestly desired the Embassadors and their attendants to remain at home and allow the coffin to be put away quietly. Mr. Harris answered without a moment's hesitation that nothing in the world would prevent him and his colleagues from fulfilling the last offices of friendship towards their murdered friend, they would accompany his body to the grave and take care to defend themselves. For this purpose all who took part in the obsequies armed themselves, the members of the Legations and Consulates, Naval officers, &c., and the procession was strengthened by about 70 marines from the foreign men-of-war then in the harbour. Five *Bunyo* (Japanese officials of highest rank) rode at the head of the procession, and many other officials followed on foot or on horseback. No disturbance was attempted.—Heusken's body was laid away in the graveyard of the *Kōrenji* temple in Azabu; a gravestone with inscription marks the spot. In the same place also lies Dankuchi, the Japanese interpreter for the English Legation who was murdered a year before.

Why Mr. Heusken, who was also exceedingly liked by the Japanese, was selected as a victim has never been explained. His cruel death has indeed been shown to correspond with the suicide of Hori Oribe no Kami, a high official, who is said to have been aggrieved by Mr. Heusken; this version is given in the History of Japan, Vol. I.,

p. 129, which was published in the year 1874, by F. O. Adams. At the same time this supposition was combatted with such good reasons, in the "Prussian Expedition" 1866, that it can scarcely be maintained. Mr. Harris also repudiates this explanation in an official document² and he gives as the cause of the murder simply Heusken's own carelessness, which led him, Harris, to fear some such result ever since their arrival in Tokio (see also end of this paper).—The Japanese historical work called "*Kinsei Shiriaku*," translated by Mr. F. M. Satow, ascribes the deed to the *ronin*, who at that time were gathering in *Hitachi* and *Shimosa* concocting plans for an attack on Yokohama, but by the intervention of the Government were prevented carrying their plan into execution. "Nevertheless" says the above work, "the secretary of the American minister, who lived in Yeddo, a certain Mr. Heusken, was murdered one evening in Mita as he was returning from an excursion."

So far Mr. Heusken's personal experiences and fate. If our readers wish to inform themselves further on the subject we refer them to the full and beautiful account in "The Prussian Expedition," Vol. I., pp. 180, 257, 271, and Vol. II., 145, 160, 171. We return to the diary and its contents.

The diary does not give an account of every particular day, for which the monotonous life in Shimoda, and subsequent retirement in Yedo, would give but little occasion. He describes only what seemed new and interesting, and what related to the negotiations, but he gives this in such simple unadorned style, that no doubt can be raised as to the truthfulness and correctness of these accounts. The following abstract contains all that would be of interest to-day, exactly as Heusken himself gives it and mostly in his own words. Whoever reads the abstract cannot but be struck with the tact and skill of these two foreigners, and will agree with the remarks of the author of "The Prussian Expedition" in Vol. I., p. 180: "Both Mr. Harris and his secretary and interpreter, Mr. Heusken, a Hollander by birth, were able to accommodate themselves to Japanese conditions as very few could and by a skilful combination and use of circumstances to accomplish what no one had dreamed possible." Moreover, the reader will also admit that in the years 1856-58, the Shōgun's régime did not at all deserve the charges that are sometimes made respecting their treatment of foreigners.³ From this diary it would seem to be clear that the Shōgun's government stood almost alone in being sensible of the fact that foreigners could not be simply driven away; that they did not at all disguise the fact of the difficulty of their position on account of the provincial lords, nor the fact that the supreme power lay not with them, but with the Mikado, whose consent they declared to be absolutely necessary, in order to overcome the opposition of the Daimio. All these difficulties were made so plain in the negotiations that Mr. Harris himself was compelled to acknowledge their force. And when the government of the Shōgun claimed the right to negotiate and conclude treaties with alien nations, they acted in perfect accord with their standpoint, that is, precisely as all Shōguns from the time of Yoritomo would have acted under similar circumstances, and in entire accord with the Laws of Iyeyasu.⁴ The wars with China and Korea, the negotiations for peace, the rejection or permission of Portuguese and Dutch intercourse, the mercantile regulations in Nagasaki, etc., etc., were concluded by the Shōguns alone and not by the Emperor. In view of such an actual arrangement of authority in Japan, the reproach that the Shōgun allowed foreigners to address him as "Majesty" amounts to nothing; the Dutch had used the title from the first, and honoured every *Daimio*, every *Tono-sama* with the title of "King." The titles used by Japanese to Heusken, *Shōgun*, *Taikun*, *Kubo-sama*, all belonged to the Shōgun in reality, or had been formerly applied to him.

¹ See "Prussian Expedition," Vol. II., p. 171.

² See, for instance, Adams' History of Japan, p. 107.

³ See Vol. I. of Transactions, pt. I., p. 6 and 8, particularly the 2nd law and the conclusion; also p. 12, the 28th law, according to which the Shōgun had the right under certain circumstances to appoint the Emperor.

This is especially true of the title *Taikun*, which indeed has never been usual among Japanese, but which was introduced by the third Shōgun of the Tokugawa line in diplomatic intercourse with Korea; and then afterward used when dealing with Americans and other foreigners. On the other hand, it must be acknowledged that the whole establishment of the Shōgunate was itself the abnormal outcome of usurped power, which sooner or later could not but lead to a struggle between Kioto and Tokio. This diary shows clearly that from the year 1856-58 the opposition to the Shōgunate had already reached an alarming height.

The point, which constituted the chief grievance and ground for agitation of the opponents of the Shōgunate was evidently the right of residence granted to foreigners. The mercantile arrangements were for the Japanese of less importance, and this diary shows that they were completely ignorant of the real scope of these regulations and in perfect confidence allowed themselves to be guided by the advice and proposals of foreigners.

To assist in making the diary more intelligible, we give here a few historical dates to refresh the memory of the reader. On the 31st of March, 1854, Perry's treaty was concluded in Kanagawa, and on the 21st of February, 1855, ratified in Shimoda. This treaty stipulated only the opening of the ports of Shimoda and Hakodate for American ships requiring wood, coal, water, and provisions; help and friendly treatment of shipwrecked Americans, and the sending of the same to Shimoda or Hakodate; free intercourse within certain limits for Americans temporarily sojourning in these ports; a limited exchange of mercantile commodities under the control of the Japanese authorities, and the right to nominate a consul for Shimoda with jurisdiction over all Americans in Japan, and finally the most favoured nation clause. Shortly afterwards the English and the Russians concluded similar treaties, the former in Nagasaki, the latter in Shimoda. About a year after the ratification of this treaty Mr. Harris appeared in Shimoda as Consul, at the same time he came as Envoy Extraordinary to present a document from the President of the United States to "the ruler of Japan," the Shōgun, and to negotiate a new treaty. According to the *Kinsei Shiriaiku* the Yedo government was warned by the Dutch in Nagasaki not to quarrel with the foreigners for fear that they would be treated as China had been ten years before. This warning was heeded as described in the same work, and this corresponds exactly with the attitude of the Government of the Shōgun as depicted in Heusken's diary. After a good deal of trouble Mr. Harris brought matters so far that in June, 1858, he returned to Shimoda, after having received from the government the promise to sign the treaty in a few months. So far the diary. According to the *Kinsei Shiriaiku* it was just at this time that Ii-Kamon-no-Kami, whom Heusken does not mention, was made regent, *Tairō*. He received information from Mr. Harris, who had learned it from American and Russian men-of-war, that the Anglo-French fleet would sail for Yedo on the conclusion of the war with China, whereupon he determined not to wait any longer for the culmination of a decision in Kioto, and signed the treaty with America on the 29th of July, 1858. "Immediately afterwards," says the *Kinsei Shiriaiku*, "the English, French, and Russians came to Yedo and negotiated treaties similar to the American. It was at this time that the agitation for the expulsion of the foreigners began, and that many people began to talk about internal and external affairs."

The chief difference between these and the former treaties was that they secured for foreigners diplomatic representation, the right of permanent residence in certain places, extraterritorial rights, freedom in the exercise of their religion, and unrestricted commercial intercourse.

The agitation against the foreigners became more formidable, especially after the murder of Ii-Kamon-no-Kami in the year 1860. "From that time," says the *Kinsei Shiriaiku*, "the number of those who demanded the expulsion of the foreigners increased daily." And this same

agitation, as previously remarked, is accredited in the same book with having brought about the murder of Heusken without even a hint of any particular personal cause.

ABSTRACT OF THE DIARY.

From 21st August, 1856, to 8th June, 1858.

August 21st to September 21st, 1856.

On the 21st of August, 1856, the screw-frigate *San Jacinto*, with Messrs. Harris and Heusken on board, anchored in the harbor of Shimoda at the southern end of the peninsula of Idzu. Immediately one of the secretaries of the governors with two interpreters, who understood Dutch, made his appearance in order to welcome Mr. Harris as Consul-general, and to receive a document from him announcing his arrival to the governors.

On the day on which the Consul-General was to meet the two governors, the Daimios of Shinano and Bingo, he goes ashore with 12 officers, is met by Japanese officers and military escort and is conducted to the government buildings. Both governors, surrounded with officers and secretaries, await him at the entrance of the audience hall. The greeting is exceptionally friendly and the company sit down at once to a Japanese repast. After the usual ceremonial speeches and assurances of friendship, the governors express themselves as not having expected the Consul-General so soon; Shimoda had been visited by floods and earthquakes; they had as much as they could do to repair the mischief done thereby, the whole land was completely demoralized by the great calamity; it would therefore greatly rejoice them if his Excellency the Consul-General would return home, and visit them again in one or two years. As this was negated by the letter of his consular instructions, the governors declared they could not see any necessity whatever for a consul in Shimoda, they would like to know why he was sent at all; it was stated in the treaty, that a consul should be appointed in Japan, if one of the contracting governments considered it necessary. After an explanation of the prerogatives and duties of a consul, viz., protection of his countrymen, assistance of shipwrecked, etc., etc., the Japanese reply that they need have no anxiety on that score, they (the Japanese) would see to those matters to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. After a lengthened debate, in which it became very clear that the arrival of a consul was not very much to the liking of the Japanese government, it was at last decided to put a temple at his disposal and arrange it according to his wishes, as there was no preparations made for any other dwelling.

On one of the following days, the Commodore (for the first time), and the consul accompanied by Heusken and several officers, made a visit to the Governors, on which occasion they repeat the attempt to get rid of the troublesome foreigners, and ask the Commodore naively, whether he would not rather take the Consul along with him when he left the port. After the repast, from which each guest had to take away his packet of sweetmeats, the Commodore, the Consul, and Mr. Heusken each receive some presents of lacquer ware; the officers find on their return to the ship that each is the happy recipient of half of a large fish, whereas on the first visit they had already received two fowls apiece.

When the temple *Fusenji* was to be taken possession of by Mr. Harris there was a long series of discussions, for the Governors wished to reserve two or three rooms for Japanese officers. While the Japanese represented such a guard of honor to be an absolute necessity, as well as a most convenient arrangement, for in this way every wish or command of the Consul could be accomplished without delay, the latter thanked them most politely for their care and goodwill, but assured them positively that there was no necessity for so much trouble; that he would be able to take care of himself, and had no wish for such guests in his house. At last he consented to have a small house in the temple court used for a Japanese watch. After the crew of the *San Jacinto* had erected a flag-mast in the court of the Consulate, the ship

weighed anchor on the 3rd of September, 1856; Townsend Harris and Heusken remained alone behind.

21st September to 24th February, 1857.

In the night of 20th Sept., 1856, a *taifun* destroyed one-third of the town of Shimoda and cast all the junks on shore, the next morning Heusken was surprised at the placidity of the Japanese and the activity with which they began the work of repairing the mischief.

On the 25th of September, the Consul-General sends a letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Yedo to acquaint him with the fact that he was not only Consul, but that he had full powers as Ambassador, and moreover that he had a letter from the President of the United States to "His Majesty the Emperor" and intended to go to Yedo to deliver the same.

In the meantime, before an answer is returned, a Dutch steam corvette arrives, stays however, but a few days in the unsafe harbour; later, in October, an American schooner brings a cargo of arms, but the Japanese considered them too old and refused to have them. A very welcome interruption to the monotonous life in Shimoda was occasioned by the more lengthened stay (from Nov. 12 to Dec. 15) of the Russian corvette *Olivuzsa* with Captain Constantin Possiet on board, who brought the ratification of the treaty concluded between Russia and Japan. On the 22nd of February, at the request of the Consul, the Japanese fire off two small cannon in honour of Washington's birthday, the cannon were exact imitations of a model presented by Commodore Perry and were served with great precision.

At last one of the Governors brings an answer from Yedo. The Government there is not inclined to deal directly with the Consul-General; the governors of Shimoda have full powers for that purpose. This answer is corroborated by a written answer of the Great Council to the two letters which Harris had sent to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Probably in order to alleviate the unpleasantness of this message, the governors invite the Consul to their private dwelling; all their intercourse thus far had been in the government buildings.

On the 24th of February 1857 the consul and his secretary are borne in two *norimon* to the dwelling of the two governors, Inouye, Daimio of Shinano and Oka, of Bingo. All the Japanese officials are in gala dress. With every possible mark of politeness the guests are entertained in Japanese fashion, and on the conclusion of the meal, one of the governors prepares tea with his own hands to present to the Consul, to whom also the whole tea apparatus is given as a memento. The governors and other officials lived in a compound surrounded by a wall, about an English mile from Shimoda; each one had his little house in which he lived with his servants; women were entirely excluded, for the government held that where the officials had an extraordinary mission to fulfill they could by that means better secure State secrets from gossiping tongues.

February 25th to March 1st, 1857.

On the 25th of February the negotiations with the governors were at last to make a beginning. Mr. Harris had wisely occupied the lengthened interval in arranging all sorts of apparently trivial things, partly with the object of learning the *modus operandi* of the Japanese, and also to give them to understand that while he acted with the greatest consideration he intended also to go forward with the greatest firmness. The chief causes of complaint were the following:—The two foreigners could never go outside of the house without having their steps dogged by a police official, who never let them go out of sight, under the pretence of protecting them from the perfectly harmless people. The people of Shimoda were strictly prohibited all intercourse with the foreigners, and all ran away as soon as they appeared. The next point was, that the presence of the so-called guard of honour, consisting of two officers and two soldiers in a little house in the temple court, had become altogether unbearable. Moreover, whenever an official came on a visit he was always accompanied by half a dozen secretaries who wrote down every word that was spoken. The fourth

difficulty was the constant surveillance of three imperial spies, as Heusken calls them, probably the so-called *ometsuke*, who had the right to be present at every audience, on which occasions they occupied a place separate from the rest of the officials and observed everything exactly in order to report the same to Yedo. Finally, the Governors had the habit of answering their letters by messages and never in writing.

As all kindly representations resulted in nothing but evasive replies, Harris took a determined stand; declared all these arrangements to be an insult to the representative of a great nation, and in opposition to all the laws recognized by civilized nations in diplomatic intercourse. He declared further that, if the guard of honour were not removed at once, he would consider himself a prisoner and report accordingly to his government; he would always welcome visits from Japanese officials, but uninvited guests he would show to the door. That took effect; the guard of honour vanished, the secretaries and *ometsuke* were seen no more; the governors answered by letter, and the people soon became more friendly.

March 1 to June 17, 1837.

On the first of March negotiations begin in earnest respecting some additional articles in the treaty concluded by Commodore Perry in Kanagawa. One great difficulty arises out of the question of the dollar exchange, the Japanese at first wish to take the dollar at the rate of one silver *bu*, although worth treble that amount. The Consul refuses to pay what he owed until this question was settled; and on his advice a Russian corvette paid only one-third of the price demanded for purchases, and deposited the balance with the Consul. The Japanese then propose to exchange gold for gold, and silver for silver by weight but with 25 per cent. discount for cost of re-coining; and finally it is decided to fix the discount at 6 per cent.

June 18th to August 18th, 1857.

At length on the 17th of June, after ten months of delay, the Convention was signed. The new regulations are principally the following:—The port of Nagasaki is opened for American vessels as it had already been for Russian ships, to take in provisions, coal, etc., and to arrange averages. Americans have the right after July 4th, 1858, to settle in Shimoda and Hakodate, gold and silver are to be exchanged according to weight, with 6 per cent. in favour of the Japanese for cost of re-coining. The Americans are amenable to their own law-courts, ships which call at Shimoda, Hakodate, or Nagasaki may pay for purchases in kind if they have not a sufficiency of cash. The consuls have the right to come and go freely within a radius of 7 *ri* from their residences, but at the request of the Japanese Government they will not make use of this privilege for a time. Finally, the consuls and the members of their households may buy necessities direct from the dealers without the intervention of an official.

The above additions to the former treaty having been settled, the time has come to begin negotiations for the conclusion of a real treaty of commerce, for which purpose the two governors declare they have full powers to act for the Government. Mr. Harris, however, demands first of all, an answer to two letters, of Oct. 25, 1856, and Jan. 8, 1857, that he had sent to the Great Council in Yedo, containing among other things an intimation that he was the bearer of a document from the President of the United States which he had to present to the "Emperor" of Japan. The governors declare that they have authority to receive the letter, and one of them would bear it to its destination in Yedo. The Consul, however, will not agree to this, and insists on putting the letter himself into the hands of the "Emperor." A refusal on the part of Japan would be a serious insult to his Government and would have a disastrous result. At the same time he makes good use of an event which occurred a short time before, and which just now stood him in good stead. The governors had sent him word that they had received a letter for him from the great Council in Yedo

which they would hand him at their next meeting in the government house. As Harris was sick he desired them to deliver the letter to his secretary, Mr. Heusken, but this they refused to do, on the ground that a letter signed by the great Council could be delivered only to the Consul himself and not to any of his underlings; this was Japanese etiquette. Mr. Harris now turned the tables on them and urged the same arguments upon the governors that they had used, so that it was eventually decided that the lord of Shinano should set out for Yedo and bring instructions thence.

Everything is at a stand-still until he returns, and Heusken relates his experiences in expeditions on horseback with improvised saddles over frightful roads.

August 25, the lord of Shinano returns, and two days later a conference is held, when Harris is informed that after a great deal of difficulty and objection on the part of the great Council, they have decided to receive him in Yedo, and to accept the letter of the President to the ruler of Japan (the Shōgun). Harris refuses, and the two governors endeavour to persuade him that it would not do for him to present the letter himself to the Shōgun, for he never attended personally to any political business, the eighteen great princes were against such a presentation, and to consent to what the Consul demanded would cause discontent and disturbance. If he, nevertheless, should insist in his demands, the Japanese Government would prepare a full document for the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Washington and ask him, the Consul, to have it sent to his address. Harris declares that he is ready and willing to forward any letters whatever to his Government, can assure them, however, that such a document would be of no avail in this case, and as to their anxiety with regard to disturbances he had thought that the Government stood on firmer ground and had more power than really now seemed to be the case; moreover, there was a precedent for what he demanded; Pater Valignani was received by the Shōgun as Ambassador of the Viceroy of Goa. The governors declare that they have found no trace of any such act either in old books or in the archives of the nation.

August 28th, 1857.

In the next conference the Consul presents a long list of persons who had been received by the Shōgun as ambassadors. That was very true, they allow, but no letter was ever handed the Shōgun; Mr. Harris had better desist from this question of the letter, and at once communicate to them the important matters of which he had spoken in his letter to the great Council. The Prince of Shinano said he had assured the Council as well as His Majesty that Mr. Harris would begin negotiations for a new treaty in Shimoda as soon as he had received permission to go to Yedo. Mr. Harris protests against any such acceptance of his promise, and declares that he had promised to make the communications in question when he had received a written consent, not only to his going to Yedo but also to present the letter to the Shōgun. The governors declare they never heard of such a stipulation, but the interpreter and Mr. Heusken drive them into a corner by declaring emphatically that they had repeatedly insisted on that very condition; and they asked them also how it came that on the day before they had said that the great Council was ready to take the letter for the Shōgun, if there had been no previous question as to its direct presentation. Thereupon they have no reply to make, turn rather to entreaty, adding that if the Consul should refuse to accede to their request they might not be in a position to continue their intercourse so pleasantly with him. Mr. Harris takes this as a threat and replies sharply, is however informed that such was far from their intention, but the expression simply meant that unless a satisfactory solution be soon reached they, the two governors, may be invited to disembowel themselves.

August 31st, 1837.

In the next conference the request is repeated, and Mr. Harris makes two propositions: Either (1) to communicate the "important

matters" at once in Shimoda, and then to go immediately to Yedo to hand the Shōgun the letter, or (2) to go at once to Yedo and hand the letter to the Prime Minister in the presence of the Shōgun, and then return at once to Shimoda to make the communications there. In either case he insists on making an address to which the Shōgun must reply. The governors ask him to come again next day. Next day they acknowledge thankfully the concession of the Consul to hand the letter to the Prime Minister and not to the Shōgun, but now repeat their request to have the "important communications" made at once, which request is, however, flatly refused. Mr. Harris offers to make his propositions of the preceding day in writing so as to have the Government in Yedo informed regarding them, but the governors refuse the offer declaring that such a document would be as inadmissible before the Council as the handing of the letter to the Shōgun himself.

September 2nd, 1857.

On this day the interpreter Moriyama reappears, to induce the Consul to yield, and indeed at the very moment that he has withdrawn his two propositions, seeing that they had not been accepted. The interpreter takes this letter with him, returns, however, at 4 o'clock, and declares that the governors have not refused to accept the propositions, but have only desired Mr. Harris to consider the matter a few days longer: they were quite satisfied with a part of the propositions, but cannot see why Mr. Harris should lay so much stress upon not making his communications before the letter had been presented. (The governors appear to have considered the first proposition, to hand the letter directly to the Shōgun, as entirely out of the question.) Harris replies that as to the communications from his government he is quite vexed with himself that he should ever have allowed the possibility to occur of giving them before he had presented his letter, he was certain to be blamed for it by his government, for it was the custom at every court in Europe never to open important negotiations before the presentation of credentials to the Sovereign, the governors had done him good service by not accepting his propositions, for he had now the right to take them back, particularly as they were only made in order to make some sort of a beginning after the long delay of nearly a whole year. His propositions must therefore be considered annulled, he will make no more, it is now for the governors to renew the negotiations.

On the third of September *Bon Matsuri*. It is for the foreigners also a festival day, for, for the first time since their arrival in Shimoda, now a whole year, they receive letters from home and from China, which are brought to them by a Japanese official.

September 4th to September 7th, 1857.

Conference with the governors. They say they had no intention of rejecting the propositions and throw the blame of the misunderstanding on their interpreter Moriyama, who this time is absent. In his place there are two other interpreters who together do not understand as much Dutch as he alone. On the 7th September, it is finally settled that a messenger should be sent to Yedo with the second proposition:—viz. audience in Yedo, presentation of the letter to the Prime Minister in presence of the Shōgun, return to Shimoda and opening of negotiations. In the meantime before the messenger returns, an American frigate calls at Shimoda bringing letters and papers, and makes a very pleasant and refreshing break in the monotonous life of the two diplomats.

September 23rd to November 23rd, 1857.

At length on the 23rd September, Mr. Harris is informed that his proposition has been accepted in Yedo. Heusken writes, "We are to be received in Yedo with great honour, we are to have an audience with the Taikun. The Minister Plenipotentiary is to make an address, whereupon I am to hand him the President's letter, which he is then to place in the hands of Hotta Bichiu no Kami, the President of the Great Council." After the arrangement of some minor affairs and the refusal of Harris to

salute the Shōgun Japanese fashion it is decided that the prince of Shinano and the interpreter shall repair to Yedo to make definite arrangements.

The interpreter Moriyama returns from Yedo with the information that the journey from Shimoda shall begin on the 23rd of November. Everything is now regulated to the minutest particular, two plans of the palace are laid before them to explain the way into the interior apartments. The two foreigners shall start from the ambassador's hotel in Yedo in *Norimon*, Heusken and the vice-governor of Shimoda shall alight outside the inner wall, the ambassador and the governor ride to a farther station and alight where all the mightiest potentates of the realm do, only the "three brothers of the King," i.e., the *Gosanke*, the heads of the Tokugawa branch lines, the princes of Owari, Kiushiu, and Mito only are allowed to come nearer the palace without alighting. At the steps Harris and Heusken are to be met by two masters of ceremony properly *ometsuke* (privy commissioners of high rank) and conducted to a room where they are to change their shoes. The speeches are to be prepared beforehand so that Harris will address the Shōgun in English and the latter shall reply in Japanese, dispensing with the aid of an interpreter.

November 23rd to December 7th.

The start is made at 7 o'clock in the morning; the four Chinese servants remain behind. In Nakamura the vice-governor is waiting with the force that is to accompany them, and the train makes a formal start; at the head a Japanese officer, then the Ambassador, and Heusken on horseback, Japanese officers and men, finally the vice-governor of Shimoda in *norimon* Heusken has the opportunity during this journey over the Amagi-toge and Yugashima to Mishima, the pleasing scenery of which places he describes, to convince himself that for all internal intercourse, Shimoda is very unfavourably situated. As to their Japanese attendants, they leave nothing to desire as far as politeness and attention are concerned, there is indeed almost too much of the good thing in their efforts to drive away the curious people who modestly watch the passing travellers. But before they reach the watch on Hakone Pass some little difficulties arise. The Ambassador is told that the officials of the watch will open his *norimon*, give one glance inside and then shut it up at once; moreover he could go through on foot, or on horseback if he chose to do so; but that form of inspection had to be submitted to by the greatest Princes of the empire, even the Lord of Satsuma was no exception. Harris declares, however, that these are all mere vassals, he however, figures here as the representative of the President of the United States, and he will go through the gate without inspection or not at all. After a two hour consultation between the vice-governor and the commander of the guard the latter consents to have Heusken's *norimon* only opened and to let Mr. Harris pass without inspection. As they approach the barrier, however, Mr. Harris's servant jerks the door of his *norimon* open and shuts it again immediately, whereupon Mr. Harris is not a little angry for he looks upon the action as a premeditated manoeuvre. It appears, however, afterwards that it was in all probability a mere misunderstanding on the part of the servant. On account of this delay the train accompanied by lanterns and torches reaches Odawara at 9 o'clock in the evening, in which place the police-force with lanterns on long staves lead the way to the hotel. On the following day Nov. 27, they reach Fujisawa. The road is in good condition and could be used by wheeled vehicles. In all the villages the train is met and accompanied by the authorities, the people humbly squatting before the houses silently look at the passing train; the upper-stories of the houses are also filled with people. This is explained by the fact that the Government had ordered that no one was to appear on the high road; and so it happened that while the houses were filled with people Heusken declares that all the way from Mishima to Shin-

gawa, for about 28 *ri*, he saw but two or three *norimon* and not more than five or six people on the otherwise so busy Tokaido. In all the places through which they passed, even where no soul was to be seen, the people at the head of the train kept crying out *Shita-nero*, so that Heusken had all the way the none too refreshing sight of a kneeling crowd, which to his great joy came to an end as soon as they reached Yedo. November 30th, they start from Kawasaki: in Shinagawa arrangements are made for the entrance into Yedo. At the head of this train goes the vice-governor of Shimoda in *norimon*, then Harris also in *norimon*, the interpreter, a number of officers and a band of 130 soldiers and coolies. A vast multitude is gathered together in the streets, Heusken thinks a million, every quarter of the city has a separate gate which is opened for the train and forthwith closed again, the police force of each section accompanies the train. The people, who maintain absolute silence, show only a kindly curiosity and no trace of dislike or hatred. Moreover, Heusken remarks expressly that even the officers and nobles from the highest to the lowest, whose acquaintance he has made have always met him with the most friendly frankness and the most painful politeness. The shake of a fan on the part of an officer is sufficient to drive back the surging crowd when approaching to near. In the better part of the city where the nobles reside, all the windows are protected by screens, behind which numbers of forms are visible. The dwelling of the ambassador is situated within the third wall, and at the steps the two foreigners are met by the governor of Shimoda, the Prince of Shinano. He asks at once for the letter announcing the arrival of Mr. Harris to the Prime Minister. He also adds that the Taikun has appointed an Ambassador Extraordinary, the Prince of Tamba, to welcome Harris and to present him with certain gifts. On the 1st of December this dignitary makes his appearance, and is received by Harris (who has had lessons in Japanese etiquette from the Prince of Shinano) at the door, while the Prince of Shinano on the upper step, the vice-governor of Shimoda and certain officials further down the steps, and a host of officers in the court greet him kneeling. The reception finished, the present turns out to be a great box of bon-bons. Besides the Prince of Tamba seven other Princes are appointed as commissaries to look after Harris's wants and to give him every assistance he might need. On the 2nd of December the prince of Bichiu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, brings information in person that the audience is to take place on the 7th. On the fourth Harris returns the visit, on which occasion the addresses to be read at Court are exchanged. On the 7th of December the audience is held in the following manner:—At the steps of the Palace, where they change their foot-gear, Harris and Heusken are met by the Prince of Tamba and another commissary and conducted into a hall whose ceiling, 30 feet in height, is supported by wooden pillars. After the audience room has been shown them, they remain in the former apartment until the Shōgun is seated upon his throne, then they enter, first the two commissaries, the Prince of Shinano, and then Harris, finally Heusken bearing the document from the President. In the great hall adjoining, 600 or 700 of the élite of the Japanese lie prostrate, decked in Court costume, an upper garment of yellow linen confined by a silk sash in which a sword is sticking, and long trousers. At the threshold of the room in which the Shōgun sits the two Commissaries and the Prince of Shinano fall upon their knees. The latter remaining in this posture, leads Mr. Harris to the right so that he stands opposite the Taikun.

The Taikun is seated on a stool at the back part of the room on a platform 3 feet high; but the darkness scarcely allows of his being seen and his face is completely hidden by a hanging curtain from those who are standing.

With three bows Mr. Harris advances and remains standing on a place which is a step higher; at his right are the five members of the great Council, at his left fifty dignitaries; all on their knees. Perfect silence is preserved.

The Ambassador then makes the following ad-

dress, "May it please Your Majesty: In presenting my letters of credence from the President of the United States of America I am directed to express to Your Majesty the sincere wishes of the President for your health and happiness, and for the prosperity of your dominions. I consider it as a great honour that I have been selected to fill the high and important place of Plenipotentiary of the United States at the Court of Your Majesty, and as my earnest wish is to unite the two countries more closely in the ties of enduring friendship, my constant exertions shall be directed to the attainment of that happy end." The answer of the Taikun may be rendered: "Rejoiced at the reception of a letter sent by the hand of an Ambassador from a far country and also at his address, fellowship shall continue forever." Hereupon Heusken steps forward, gives the President's letter into Harris's hand, who opens it, shows the signature to the President of the Council and then delivers it to him. He lays it upon a table opposite the throne, then Harris retires with three bows.—The ceremony made quite an impression on Mr. Heusken, and according to his opinion the Court of the Taikun with its solemn simplicity and the absence of all barbarian splendour, contrasted very favourably with Court of the King of Siam, decked with gold and precious stones, which they had visited on their way out to Japan.

(To be continued.)

THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

The programme for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Week of Prayer to be held from the 6th to the 13th inst., has been published and circulated as usual by the Japan Branch of the Evangelical Alliance. The Arrangements for Meetings to be held in Tokiyo and Yokohama are as follows:—

TOKIO,
UNION CHURCH, TSUKIJI.
Sunday—11 a.m., Sermon by the Rev. D. S. Spencer
Monday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. C. D. Fisher
Tuesday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. J. P. Moore
Wednesday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. C. S. Eby
Thursday—2.30 p.m. The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Alliance of Japan. Addresses by the President Rev. Hugh Waddell, "Review of Christian Work during the year 1883;" Dr. C. G. Knott, "Dreams of the Past, and Facts of the Present;" Rev. A. A. Bennett, "Allegiance the Strength of Alliance."
Friday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. Mr. Cole
Saturday—4 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by the Rev. D. S. Spencer
Sunday—11 a.m., Sermon by the Rev. D. Thompson
YOKOHAMA.
Sunday—Union Church, 11 a.m., Sermon by the Rev. J. T. Smith
No. 212, Bluff, 8 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by J. A. Thompson, Esq.
Monday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by Rev. H. Loomis
Tuesday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by Rev. E. S. Booth
Wednesday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by A. J. Wilkin, Esq.
Thursday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by Dr. T. W. Gulick
Friday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by Rev. W. C. Davison
Saturday—Seamen's Mission, No. 86, 5 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by Rev. T. P. Poate
Sunday—Union Church, 11 a.m., Sermon by the Rev. F. C. Klein
No. 212, Bluff, 8 p.m., Prayer-meeting led by Rev. C. E. Garst

Programmes giving a list of the subjects suggested for Prayer each day may be had at the Seamen's Mission Rooms, No. 86 Settlement, or at the Union Church, Tsukiji. They included the usual topics of Sermons, Praise, and Thanksgiving; Confession and Prayer for Cleansing and Renewal; Prayer for the Families and Instructors of Youth; Prayer for the Church of Christ; Intercession for the Nations; Prayer for Missions at Home and Abroad; and a closing Sermon on Christian love. Text Thess. 3: 12, 13. Union Meetings of all the Native Churches in Yokohama will be held throughout the entire week following the same programme, in which they will be joined by the Native Christians in Tokio, Kobe, Osaka, Saikio, and all parts of Japan. Twenty-five hundred Japanese programmes have been supplied them for the purpose. A second week of prayer has been determined upon by the Native and foreign Christians in Yokohama and at some other points. It may be made general throughout Japan. Very interesting meetings have already been held at the Seamen's Mission Rooms since the beginning of the New Year.

NOTIFICATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

NOTIFICATION No. 47.

It is hereby notified that the Public Loan Bonds Regulations for the construction of the Nakasendo Railway, has been fixed as follows:—

Art. 1.—These Public Loan Bonds are to be issued for the purpose of raising a fund to construct a railway on the Nakasendo Road from Takasaki, Kotsuke, in the prefecture of Gumba, to Ogaki, Mino, in the prefecture of Gifu.

Art. 2.—These Public Loan Bonds shall be limited to the amount of *yen* 20,000,000 and they shall be issued gradually by the Minister for Finance as the progress of the work demands. As to the details of each issue, the Minister for Finance will fix them at the time of making the issues.

Art. 3.—These Public Loan Bonds shall not bear the name of the owners and shall be of three denominations—*yen* 100, *yen* 500, and *yen* 1,000.

Art. 4.—The interest shall be seven per cent. per annum.

Art. 5.—Should the applications for the bonds exceed the amount required by the Minister for Finance, the number of the bonds to be transferred to the applicants shall be reduced in proportion to the excess. When, however, an application is made for the bonds at a higher price than their fixed value, the amount applied for shall not be reduced. The Minister for Finance will fix the price of issue.

Art. 6.—The Minister for Finance shall exhibit a sample of the bonds.

Art. 7.—The principal of these loan bonds shall not be redeemed for the first five years; but after that they shall be redeemed within twenty-five years by means of yearly drawings. The amount to be repaid shall be notified, at least, sixty days beforehand. The interest shall be paid in June and December, but upon the bonds which have to be redeemed the interest shall be paid up to the date on which the scrip is drawn. The interest shall be paid in paper currency.

Art. 8.—The interest is payable from the date on which the bonds are purchased. If they are paid for before the 15th of the month, the interest is payable for that month, and if paid after the 15th, it dates from the following month.

Art. 9.—The principal and interest shall be paid by the Nippon Bank. Notice of payment will be given thirty days beforehand.

Art. 10.—The interest shall also be paid at the branches of and agencies of the Nippon Bank.

Art. 11.—Anyone is allowed to buy and sell these bonds.

Art. 12.—When the principal is to be paid, the bond holders living in Tokiyo and Yokohama who having a large number of the bonds—there must be above ten of them—and five officers from the National Debt Bureau and Bureau for Record, must assemble at the Nippon Bank, and the drawing will take place in their presence.

Art. 13.—If the bonds are lost or stolen, the owners must report the particulars (denomination, amount, number, and manner in which the bonds were obtained) to the Minister for Finance through their local authorities. The Minister for Finance must prohibit the purchase or sale of such lost or stolen bonds. Should the bonds be recovered, the fact must be reported to the Minister for Finance. But if such bonds are not found by the end of the period for their redemption, and if they are thought to have been destroyed, the principal shall be repaid to the owners.

Art. 14.—Should the bonds be lost at the time the drawings are notified, they shall be excluded from the drawing.

Art. 15.—When the bonds are spoiled or torn, new ones can be procured on making application

at the Treasury Department through the Nippon Bank and on payment of the necessary fees.

Art. 16.—Should the bonds be spoiled in such a manner that the denomination, stamp of the Minister for Finance, etc., are unrecognizable, they shall be regarded in the same manner as lost or stolen bonds.

Art. 17.—Should the application for the payment of the interest not be made for fifteen years after the interest fell due, the owners shall not be entitled to either the principal or interest.

Art. 18.—These rules are subject to modification, excepting as to the amount of interest and the period of redemption, at the convenience of the Government.

(By Imperial Order)

SANJO SANEYOSHI,

First Minister of State.

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,

Minister of Finance.

December, 28th 1883.

NOTIFICATION No. 48.

The following Regulations for the issue of Loan Bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu* and not bearing the name of the holder, are hereby enacted, and Article III. of Notification No. 47 of 1880 is cancelled.

Regulations for the issue of Loan Bonds in exchange for *Kinsatsu* and not bearing the name of the holder:—

Art. 1.—With the object of resuming specie payments, Loan Bonds will be exchanged for the paper money issued by the Government. The Bonds will not bear the name of the holder; their principal and interest will both be payable in specie, and the paper money against which they are exchanged will be destroyed by fire at the Finance Department.

Art. 2.—The Bonds will be issued by the Minister of Finance according to the desire of applicants, but it shall be competent for the Minister to reject applications according to the convenience of the national finances.

Art. 3.—The Bonds will be interest bearing, without the name of the holder, and of three dimensions, viz., 1,000 *yen*, 500 *yen*, and 100 *yen*.

Art. 4.—The interest on the Bonds will be six per cent. per annum.

Art. 5.—The Bonds will be issued at par, and applications for them may be made at the Bank of Japan or at any of its branches or agencies.

Art. 6.—The form of the Bonds will be determined by the Finance Minister.

Art. 7.—The redemption of the Bonds will commence five years after the year in which they are issued and will extend over a period of 30 years. The amount to be redeemed on each occasion will be made known by the Finance Minister sixty days at least before the date of drawing, and the interest will be paid twice every year, in May and November, so long as the principal remains unredeemed. When a Bond is drawn for redemption its interest will be calculated for the number of months that shall have elapsed since the date of the last payment, and the same rule will be observed in the case of Bonds which mature.

Art. 8.—The Bonds will be divided into those which have been purchased during the first fifteen days of the month and those purchased within the second fifteen days. On the former, half the month's interest will be paid: on the latter, the interest will be reckoned from the first of the following month.

Art. 9.—All business connected with the redemption of the Bonds and the payment of interest will be managed by the Bank of Japan. Dates and places will be determined by the Finance Minister, thirty days at least before the day of drawing.

Art. 10.—The interest on the Bonds will be paid at the Bank of Japan, its branches or agencies, in exchange for the coupons annexed to the Bonds.

Art. 11.—The Bonds may be purchased or dealt in by any one without distinction.

Art. 12.—The amount of Bonds to be redeemed on any occasion will be published by the Bank of Japan, their number, order, denominations, and amount having been fixed by the Minister of Finance. At the time of drawing there shall be present ten of the largest Bondholders, resident in Tokiyo and Yokohama, and five officials of the National Debt Bureau.

Art. 13.—In the event of a Bond being lost, its owner will report, in writing, to the Local Officials for transmission to the Finance Department, the number and denomination of the Bond, the name of its owner, and the circumstances under which it was lost. Thereupon the Finance Minister will prohibit the sale or exchange of the Bond. The same cause will be pursued in the event of the Bond being found. Should a Bond thus lost be not found before the expiration of the period fixed for redemption, it shall be considered cancelled, and the principal and interest will be paid to the person who originally reported the loss.

Art. 14.—Should the loss of a Bond be discovered only at the time of its being drawn for redemption, the drawing shall count for nothing.

Art. 15.—Should a Bond be stained or torn, it may be exchanged on application and payment of a reasonable commission at the Bank of Japan or any of its branches or agencies. Such exchanges must be preceded by a careful examination of the Bond's number, denomination, stamps, and other particulars.

Art. 16.—If at the time of exchanging or redeeming a Bond, it be found so much soiled or torn that the number, denomination, stamps, or other particulars are illegible, the payment of the principal and interest shall be subject to the rules which apply to the case of lost Bonds.

Art. 17.—Bonds of which the principal or interest shall not have been claimed for fifteen years after they fall due, shall cease to be redeemable.

Art. 18.—With the exception of the rate of interest and the period of redemption, these Regulations may be amended or added to in accordance with Government necessity.

(Signed) SANJO SANEYOSHI,
First Minister of State.
MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.
28th of December, 1883.

THE ISSUE OF THE BANK OF FRANCE.

Mr. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu writes to the following effect on the dangers of suppression of the limit of the issue of the Bank of France. The state of French finances beginning to be well known, remedies are sought for on all sides. The simplest is one that seems to have escaped all observation; and that is to reduce the unparalleled squandering that has been going on for the last five or six years. But it appears that, far from adopting such a plan, the Government desires to adopt one quite the reverse. Thus, in the course of the last few days, it has forced the Senate to vote a supplementary credit of *fr.* 100,000 to increase the salaries of Prefects, whereas the emoluments of these functionaries are out of all proportion to the democratic condition of French habits, and the appropriation ought to be reduced by half a million at least, if not by a full million.

However, there are not two kinds of wisdom—one for private individuals and one for Governments. Take the case of any good citizen who, with a revenue of *fr.* 20,000 spends during three or four years *fr.* 24,000 or 25,000. Immediately that he realizes the condition of his affairs he will say to himself that there is only one way of disentangling himself, namely by reducing his expenses to *fr.* 20,000 or rather to *fr.* 19,000 as he has already made a hole in his capital. If the State had any perspicacity and any force of will, it would at the present moment adopt a similar line of

¹ Japanese papers interpret this article as embodying the foreign subscribers.

policy; but it does not listen to any such counsel, as this study of economy appears a too hard and vulgar a virtue: it seeks for other succour. And thus the strangest projects are invoked. One might think oneself back again either at the end of the last century or in the middle of the middle ages, to such an extent are absurd fancies attributed to the Government. One man propounds the reminting of all the gold currency of France: another says that the authorities desire to raise by two hundred million francs the three milliards which is the limit of issue of the Bank of France. (In point of fact, says Mr. Beaulieu, the suppression of the limit of issue of the Bank of France figures in the revised budget prepared by Tirard. The moment was ill-chosen.)

When we first read in some papers this absurd information, we gave no credence to it. But the rumor has been confirmed; and it is time to discuss these strange proposals. What is meant by reminting all our gold, and extending the limit of the Bank of France's note-issue? In what mad brain could such ideas have terminated. Would the Government emit false coin, as was done in the reign of Philippe le Bel? Or should we gradually reestablish our assignats by borrowing from the Bank its reserve of Treasury-notes, its railway bonds, or other paper to the extent of either one milliard or five millions. Nought but astonishment can follow the learning of such designs. Look for a single reasonable explanation of any idea of this nature. I defy you to find any.

Mr. Beaulieu goes on, in a strain of sarcasm that always renders his writings, even on dry subjects, pleasant: "To remint all the gold coin is not, I hope, for the pleasure of destroying all the effigies of Napoleon I., Louis VIII., Charles X., Louis Philippe, and Napoleon III. This would be simply costly child's play—as stupid as that pursued in the redesignation of the streets." And here we find an aphorism worth remembrance, which we may take the liberty of condensing from Mr. Beaulieu's sensible verbiage:—"Remintage is a cause of profit or loss. Honestly conducted it is a source of loss to the State, for small coins are always more or less worn away by friction and have lost part of their weight. The new coinage must be of standard weight. Hence the State may be in a deficit which may easily sum up to some hundred of millions."

But the reverse of the medal is next shown. Dishonestly performed, a recoinage may be a source of gain for the State, but of such a gain as will cause to the whole of the nation a loss much more considerable. It is suggested even that some unscrupulous broker may have whispered into the ear of the Minister of Finance to make a partial, not a total, remintage: that is to say to re-coin all the pieces which are above the recognized standard. The writer shows what profits might result; and concludes:—"In one word the vast development of the Bank of France's circulation during the past five years does not arise at all from commercial needs but from the requirements of the Treasury. And it is not for trade, but for the exchequer that the Bank's limit of issue is to be extended." And, again, "the Bank's liberty is wide enough: nothing hinders it to restore some coin to circulation." . . . "Yet an increase in circulation ought to be reserved for days of great peril as, for instance, a foreign war. Recourse on the part of the Exchequer or the big-privileged institutions such as the Railway Companies or the Credit Foncier, to the Bank is very dangerous." . . . "The notion of raising the limit of issue is such as to be likely to injure the public credit and to give another shock to our already badly shaken financial situation. If we hope to have a solid credit, and a clear and well-established monetary system, we must take example from the English, who for the past forty years have made no change in the limit of issue of the Bank of England. That example is decisive."

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE ANGLO-KOREAN TREATY.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*.)

The public is now pretty well acquainted with the tenor of the treaty concluded by Sir Harry Parkes at Sōul, its principal clauses having been already published in these columns. Although the treaty stipulations between the two countries include the most favoured nation clause, our country occupies the position of the most favoured nation, as we are entitled to the same privileges as other nationals and their Governments, as provided for in our treaty with Korea, which says:—"Any right, privilege, or favour which the Korean Government has actually granted or may hereafter grant to the Government or subjects of any other State shall be extended to the Government or subjects of Japan without delay." According to this provision, we can claim whatever privileges are contained in the treaties of nations with Korea and which are in any way more beneficial than our own, without discrimination as to whether it is France or England. Thus, we can claim the privileges, rights, and favours that are embodied in the English Treaty on an equal footing with the Government and subjects of that country; so that whenever other nations enter into treaty stipulations with Korea, we can secure the additional benefits that may accrue without any effort on our part, and there can be no question that this is a matter for congratulation. But in considering the interests of Korea, we cannot help regretting that every new treaty may tend to conflict with the true interests of that country.

Article 1 of the English treaty provides for peace and amity, and for the exercise of good offices in case of these being required by one or other of the contracting powers. Article 2 provides for diplomatic and consular representation. Article 3 secures to the British authorities exclusive jurisdiction in all cases, civil or criminal, brought against English in Korea, either by the Korean Government or Korean subjects; and complaints involving a penalty or confiscation for breach of the treaty or of other regulations will also be decided by the English authorities. Article 4 provides for the opening of the port of Inchhōn, Wōnsan, and Pusan, and the town of Yanghwachin. According to this article, choice may be made of another port in the neighbourhood of Yanghwachin if those two places should be found unsuitable; but the right to open commercial establishments in the capital is subject to surrender if the Chinese Government should relinquish that right. At each of the places named, British subjects may rent or purchase land or houses, and may erect dwellings, warehouses, and factories. The sites for the foreign Settlements are to be selected and laid out by the Korean Government, in conjunction with the competent Foreign Authorities, and will be managed by a Council, the constitution of which will be determined in the same way. British subjects will have full liberty to travel and trade in the interior of the country, and will be amenable, in the settlements or elsewhere, to such Municipal, Police, and other Regulations as may be agreed on by the authorities of the two countries.

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd articles afford no particular feature for comment. The 4th article, however, has an important bearing. The ports of Inchhōn, Wōnsan, and Pusan were opened to Japanese trade in the 8th year of Meiji, and the town of Yanghwachin was opened last year. These places were opened for our benefit, yet as we are by no means disposed to monopolise them, it pleases us that they were opened for other treaty powers. Thus, if any other place is newly opened for European nations, we are entitled to live and trade thereat. Supposing Pusan is not suitable for trade and another place is substituted for it, we can trade

in the new place as well as in Pusan. The Capital was not opened for Japanese commerce, although Chinese are trading there.

Article 4 of the Trade Regulations between China and Korea says that Chinese subjects shall be allowed to trade in Sōul, while Koreans are at liberty to trade in Peking. China contrived to prevent other nations from obtaining the same privilege by saying in the preface: "the conditions now stipulated are a special favour for commerce by land and sea which China grants to her dependency. This favour is not to be extended to other nations." The assertion by China that Korea is her dependency, is no longer recognised by any nation. First of all, Japan treated the Peninsular Kingdom as an independent power, and our example was followed by America, England, France, and Germany. In these circumstances, the treaty between Korea and China is untenable. It is not reasonable that, as England—one of the favoured nations—should have claimed to be placed on the same footing with China, Japan should do the same. Korea may have refused to open Sōul but for the threats of the Chinese Government, and the latter may now be contemplating the abolition of the treaty. On this account, the British Minister has, it appears, consented to the insertion of a clause in the English treaty to the effect that the right to trade in Sōul is subject to surrender, if China should give it up. But it may be rather for Korea's benefit than otherwise if she should open the Capital to foreign trade. We suppose the Council mentioned in the treaty to be similar to the Municipal Council at Shanghai; but in carrying out such a system in Korea, the government must take great care, or otherwise she may find that this Council may cause a miscarriage in the management of her national affairs. For what reason Korea granted the right as laid down in the English Treaty for people to travel and trade in the interior, we are unable to say. But she appears to have over-estimated her own circumstances, for certainly the Korean people are not yet in a condition to justify any such proceeding. However, as Korea has extended this privilege to England, she cannot refuse the same to Japan.

Article 5 gives English subjects the right to import into Korean open ports from any foreign port or any Korean open port all kinds of merchandise (excepting prohibited goods); and to export the same to any Korean open port, or to any foreign port. It provides for drawbacks on foreign goods, and for the refund of duty on Korean produce when proved to have been conveyed to a Korean open port. All goods that have once paid the duty of the tariff may be transported to any Korean open port free of duty, or may be conveyed into the interior free of any additional tax, excise, or transit duty whatsoever. Tonnage duties are to be paid at the rate of 30 cents per ton, a single payment being good for four months; and the whole of the dues so collected are to be appropriated to the construction of lighthouses, beacons, etc., and to the improvement of the anchorages at, and the approaches to, the open ports. These conditions afford no particular contrast with ours, except that while English bottoms pay tonnage dues of 30 cents in silver, we pay 125 *mon*. If these 125 *mon* are not to contribute toward replenishing the Korean exchequer, we have yet the right to prefer the lower rate. Tonnage dues are to be appropriated to the construction of lighthouses, beacons, the improvement of harbours, &c., but the English treaty stipulates that "the whole of those dues" shall be used for the purpose named, and the Korean Government is therefore restricted in the way of spending the tonnage dues.

Article 6 relates to smuggling at non-opened ports, the penalty being confiscation of the smuggled goods, as well as the forfeiture of twice their value. Our treaty, however, says that if a Japanese vessel shall smuggle or attempt to smuggle any goods at any of the non-opened

harbours of Korea, all such goods, together with all other commodities on board such vessel, shall be forfeited to the Korean Government, and the master of such ship shall pay a fine of 50,000 *mon*. Here we observe a great difference. British smugglers are liable to have confiscated only such portion of cargo as was attempted to be smuggled, and the other portion of cargo is not to be forfeited. On the other hand, we are liable to have the whole cargo confiscated and to pay a penalty of 50,000 *mon*. However desirable it may be to prevent smuggling, the lighter penalty seems preferable. Article 7 details the course to be followed in case of shipwreck, or when a British vessel is stranded on the Korean coast. All salvaged cargo or property is to be carefully protected, and the wants of the shipwrecked persons are to be fully provided for. Article 8 relates to ships of war. Article 9 sanctions the employment of Koreans by British subjects. Article 10 fixes the position of England as regards the most favoured nation, and Article 11 provides for revision of the treaty in ten years hence.

In the English treaty, the export of ginseng is prohibited, but nothing is mentioned as to the duties on ships. It promises the conversion of the present *ad valorem* duty into specific rates. This is a very important question, which demands the most serious consideration on the part of the Korean Government.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1883.

(Translated from the *Tokyo-Yokohama Mainichi Shimbun*.)

The Chinese philosopher So, said that mankind, in learning letters, learned the word "affliction" first of all. Since we first entered upon the journalistic field, our troubles have far surpassed our happiness every year. Whether this is due to our being acquainted with letters, or otherwise, we know not. In summing up the principal events of the year 1882 at the end of the year just gone, we expressed a hope that the year 1883 might witness a healthy improvement in trade, politics, and agriculture; but it has turned out, on the contrary, to be one of still greater depression in trade and not at all satisfactory in the political improvement of the country. We shall now proceed to review these subjects, each one separately. In the beginning of the year 1883, members of all the Metropolitan and Prefectural Assemblies met in Tokyo to discuss the advantage or otherwise of the present system of Assemblies. On the 1st of February, they were to meet at the Honganji Temple; but owing to a breach of agreement on the part of the monastery, they were obliged to find some other suitable place, as the priests, having refused to lend their hall after having previously agreed to its being used, the committee were thrown into confusion, but they ultimately succeeded in obtaining rooms at Nakamura's. As the meeting was of a purely social nature, we called upon all persons interested to attend it in spite of living at a great distance, even those from Satsuma and Osumi. Unfortunately, the day was ushered in by a great snowfall, which made the weather almost unbearable, and on the second day the meeting was dispersed by order of the Home Minister. The cause of this order, however, could not be ascertained. The Press Laws were revised and were made more stringent than before. Formerly, the editor alone was responsible for the violation of the Press Regulations, but according to the new rules, the proprietor, editor, and printer are alike liable to punishment. The most remarkable feature in the new provisions is the exacting of security amounting to *yen* 1,000, according to the nature of the journal. In consequence, many papers stopped publication. At one time, we feared that journalistic enterprise would be entirely put an end to. The principal parties, worthy of the name, were the Liberals, the Liberal-Conservatives, and

the Imperialists. The first two parties professed nearly the same creed, their mutual relations being similar to those of Nobunaga and Iyeyasu, and we might have naturally expected that harmony would have existed between them. On the contrary, however, the Liberals assumed an attitude decidedly hostile towards the Liberal-Conservatives, when their leader Mr. Itagaki left for Europe on a tour of political inspection. They applied all sorts of scurrilous epithets to their opponents, whilst our friendly advice was never accepted; and especially did the lower grades of the Liberals bring discredit upon themselves by their calumnies and abuse. On the return of Mr. Itagaki, however, they abandoned their method of procedure, and this course has been attributed to their having been admonished by Mr. Itagaki; nevertheless, they are to be congratulated upon having mended their ways. The Imperial Party has distinguished itself by its inactivity throughout the period of its existence, and it has exercised no influence whatever upon political affairs, notwithstanding that it was numerically stronger than some other parties, especially in the provinces; and although its creed is utterly at variance with that which we profess, it was often demonstrated in the field of practical politics that the party was occasionally useful, and with this in view we always desired that it should continue to exist. On the 24th of September, however, the members dissolved their organization, which we think, for the reason given above, is to be regretted. During the year, the Koto Ho-in was twice opened for the prosecution of political offenders, in one case those who were connected with the Fukushima affair, and the other those who got into trouble at Takata. In the former case, the suspects were sentenced, on the 29th of September, to six years imprisonment, except the ringleader, who was committed to gaol for the term of seven years. In the latter case, the ringleader was sentenced to nine years' imprisonment. Considering that our beloved Sovereign possesses the brilliant virtue mercy, which is equally acknowledged by the Japanese people as by foreigners, and that his Ministers are all men of ability, it seems almost past belief that such events have taken place in two instances in the year just gone. The departure to Europe of H.E. Ito was an event which afforded food for surmise and conjecture, and when he returned, it was reported that great Ministerial changes would take place; another report was that the provincial officers would be superseded. No such changes, however, as those referred to have taken place, or even any material alteration, if we may except the transfer of the three Privy Counsellors, Fukuoka, Yamada, and Yamagata, from one post to another.

With regard to commerce, depression at length has reached the last stage, and Yokohama has witnessed a series of commercial disasters such as have never been experienced since it was first opened for foreign trade. Silk merchants have been ruined owing to the depreciation in the value of that article and consequent upon the fall in the rate of exchange in the interior. The import dealers have equally suffered. If they once put their goods into godowns, they knew not when an opportunity to take them out would occur, since there was no demand for them. Every article they contracted for proved a loss on arrival here, and the consequence was no end of trouble attended by constant litigation between them and foreign merchants. The Bourse has also been ruined owing to the enactment of new rules which came into operation on the 1st of April. Formerly, the tax paid by exchange brokers amounted to more than *yen* 60,000; but for the last half year from July to December, it only amounted to *sen* 70, and the Stock and Rice Exchanges in Tokyo have shared a nearly similar fate; while additional disaster has attended the enormous fall in the price of rice, and it may be said of the saké brewers that they have simply collapsed, the number of these who have become bankrupt being upwards of 500, or about 6 in every 10. The expenditure of

the Post Office is reported to exceed the income owing to a considerable falling off in the quantity of correspondence. This not only represents a stagnation in business, but also the contraction of knowledge and the prevention of its diffusion among the people.

Of course, the mainstay of this country is its agriculture. For the last five or six years we have been blessed with abundant harvests, although there may have been some localities where the crops were slightly damaged, but on the whole, we have had an outturn of both grain and cereals far above the average; nevertheless, distress has prevailed to a very great degree amongst farmers instead of prosperity, and to such an extent in many instances that they cannot pay the taxes. The Government has postponed the period for their payment, yet the result, we fear, will not be so good as is anticipated.

So much for the principal events that occurred during the year 1883. Our readers will find no difficulty in deciding whether we were well off or not. Notifications Nos. 46, 47, and 48 next demand serious consideration at our hands, and we shall discuss them in a future issue.

THE POSITION OF FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS IN WAR.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

Our readers already know that Europeans maintain, in view of war arising from the Franco-Chinese difficulty, that the settlements, being under the protection of exterritoriality, are neutral, and that the French cannot blockade any treaty ports. According to international law, the belligerents cannot encroach upon neutral countries and must respect the right of such nations. In case of a blockade, such waterways as are open to neutral parties shall not be obstructed. Thus, A. is a neutral country, situated say, at the source of a river, and B. is a country engaged in hostility with C., who, being B.'s enemy, cannot blockade the river in question, as it must not obstruct A.'s passage. Such is the right of neutrals, which belligerents must respect. We shall now proceed to consider whether or no foreign settlements are made neutral by virtue of extra-territoriality. What is the meaning of exterritoriality? It is nothing more than that foreigners observe their laws under the pretence that the laws of the country in which they reside are not sufficient to protect their lives and property; or, in other words, exterritoriality stipulates that the control of foreigners shall be left to their own Governments; but it does not stipulate for any grant of land. That the Government officers cannot pay domiciliary visits to foreigners is not because the residence of foreigners is on foreign soil, but because the authorities have no power over them, a fact which is clearly established by the treaties between nations. This being the case, foreign settlements are still an integral portion of the country in which they are located. This is exactly the case in Japan and China. Foreign settlements in China cannot, therefore, be considered neutral. Should the French blockade them in case of war with the Middle Kingdom, bystanders would have no right to object to the proceeding. This is recognized by the most learned authorities. Supposing that exterritoriality affords protection to foreign settlements against blockade, it being based upon an agreement between the contracting parties, is binding upon the contracting parties only and not upon outsiders. This is not mere presumption, but a maxim laid down in the law of contract which Occidentals obey. Therefore whatever contracts may exist between China and any other power, are binding upon the two and need not be recognised by France. Whatever nationals may reside at the ports of China, the ports being Chinese territory, no foreign power can restrain the exercise of the full rights of belligerents. No matter whether the result be

favorable or unfavorable to China, we are sure that, should the pretensions of foreigners prevail, the French cannot blockade the ports of Canton, Amoy, Ningpo, Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, and other important places; and this would be a bad thing for China in so far as her temporary convenience is concerned. But an inevitable consequence is that the foreign concessions in her dominions will establish themselves as independent possessions, entirely beyond her control. If the foreign settlements were once declared neutral and exempt from a French bombardment, China would equally with other powers be unable to execute military operations there. The settlements might come within the line of defence, or it might be found expedient to burn them down or evacuate them or build fortifications round them; but if they are declared neutral and are not to be attacked by French, what can China do? France cannot take offensive, or China defensive, measures. This notion cannot be reconciled with the rights of independent nations. Article 15 of the treaty between China and Japan says:—"If either power shall be at war with another country, it may close its ports and temporarily stop trade by giving due notice. Vessels going and coming must not suffer. Chinese residing in Japan or Japanese residing in China, shall not, in such a case, take sides with either one of the hostile parties." This is very proper. But we do not know whether China has a similar treaty with other powers. Supposing China yields to foreign pretensions, what will she do? We are apprehensive for our good neighbour. If the foreign settlements are not to be attacked by the French, the advantage in this respect will be more than counterbalanced by China's inability to take defensive measures in the settlements. Not only this, but the foreign settlements will fall entirely out of China's hands as she will no longer be able to control them. Should such a precedent as is here implied be once admitted in international law, all future affairs in the East will be meddled with by neutrals. The question at issue bears not only on the future of China, but on that of the whole of the Orient. We earnestly call the attention of Chinese and Japanese functionaries to this point.

CHRISTIANITY AND BUDDHISM.

Mr. Mozoondar, a distinguished Indian Brahmin Priest, and a leading representative of the Bramo Somaj, now on a visit to Japan, delivered a lecture before the faculty and students of the Imperial Japanese University on Friday last. He spoke as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—I have lately visited the great countries of the West. As our vessel neared the coasts of Japan, my heart was full of joy, for I felt that I was once more creeping back into the bosom of Asia, my mother and your mother. President Hattori has requested me to address you to-day on Buddha, his life and teaching. I rejoice that Japan and India are near to each other because they are both a part of Asia; but my country and your country are bound together in a higher union by the strong arm of Shakamuni. I have often sat under the famous tree where he prayed and obtained illumination, and besought for myself the wisdom of heaven. The names applied to Buddha are extremely interesting as they indicate his personal virtues. Shaka means lion of the Shaka race. Buddha signifies intelligence, wisdom. Seddhah—one who has accomplished his purpose. In childhood Buddha was trained in all the manly sports, as well as in literature and other accomplishments. You are all familiar with the words of an English poet:—"The child is father to the man." This is true of him, for young Shakamuni was father to the future Buddha. The philosophy of India is a boundless ocean. There are heights and depths of wisdom which

are almost unfathomable. Buddha was a perfect master of this vast philosophical system.

Mr. Mozoondar then gave a very poetic description of the life of the young Prince in the royal palace, surrounded by lovely parks, and from whose outlook sickness, death, and all unpleasant sights were carefully removed. He participated in the enjoyments which surrounded him, but these did not suffice for him. He longed and sighed for something which the world could not give. True, every man sighs for something beyond the pleasures of the world, but Shakamuni's longing was deeper and more earnest. The life of a Hindoo Prince is very different from that of an European Prince. In Europe a Prince keeps his pack of hounds, opens their mouths and counts their teeth, compares the size of bullets, looks into the mouth of cannon, takes a part in manly sports, and becomes well acquainted with the outside world. In India their condition is the opposite of all this. They are confined within the walls of a palace, and when they go forth for pleasure there is a body-guard in front and rear. They are ignorant of the world. A few years ago the Prince of Wales visited India. Vast preparations were made beforehand for his visit. Immense sums of money were expended in putting everything in good condition. The people were commanded to whitewash their houses, and remove all offensive sights. The beggars were all spirited away and put out of sight. When the Prince came and saw how clean and well governed India was, he was satisfied that the great empire over which he was to rule some day was in a most happy condition. How much less, then, could Buddha, confined to his palace, know of the real world? Shakamuni once issued from his palace and for the first time saw a sick beggar. He knew not who or what the creature might be, for he had never heard of such an object. But when he found out what it all meant, his pure sympathetic soul was thrilled with pain. At another time he saw a funeral procession, and inquired of the attendant what it was? He never knew there was such a thing as death in the world. These were awful revelations to him, and the first thought with him was:—"Is there no remedy for these ills of life?" Again, at another time, he met a man clad in tattered garments. His exterior was that of a beggar, but his countenance showed composure and peace, and beamed as though a full moon were rising out from it. He asked the attendant who the man was! And he replied that is a "Holy man! He loves God: he loves man: he conquers himself." The sight of this holy man made a deep and lasting impression upon his mind; and he felt that in religion was to be found the remedy for all the sorrows of the world. He said:—"In religion I find the secret of ease."

The speaker next dwelt on Buddha's character. Three great features distinguish his character and teaching. (1) Humanity—He taught kindness, gentleness, love. By his example and powerful preaching he did much to humanize India. In the days of Shakamuni the Brahmins as a class were cruel and warlike, and fond of animal food. But their habits of life were greatly improved under the humane influence of this great teacher, and the effects of his teaching are very manifest in India to-day, for there is still a mighty people in that country who abstain from animal food. (2) Wisdom and intelligence, as the name Buddha itself signifies. Shakamuni, was the wisest, the greatest of all the sons of India. He revelled in the profundities of Hindu ideas and philosophy—a Prince among wise men. (3) Self-discipline and subjugation of the passions. "Self is the law of self." For, in long years, he fasted, and prayed, and wept, searching for the eternal verities. He tore the lusts from his heart and trod them under his feet. He conquered selfishness in all its branches. Nirvanah comprises the above three cardinal virtues. Nirvanah must not be confounded with annihilation. The doctrine of annihilation was not

taught by Buddha, but is an invention of later theologians. It signifies—according to the founder of Buddhism—peace, wisdom, holiness, reconciliation of soul to soul, and conquest of self. He has taught, further, that there are three things when constitute moral government. (1) Buddha—The Master himself. (2) Sauga—Priesthood. (3) Damma—Law. In Christianity we find corresponding to these. (1) Buddha, meaning Messiah. (2) Sauga, meaning Priesthood. (3) Damma, meaning the Bible.

Here the lecturer laid great stress upon the remarkable similarity between the "Light of Asia" and the "Star of Bethlehem." He eulogized Christianity as the chief of the great religions, and characterized Christ as the chief of all the great prophets of all times, the God-man, and the central light of the whole world. He continued:—"I am not a Christian, I am a Brahmin; and I believe in the ancient faith of my own country. Religion is a necessity to all men. A nation cannot take one stride forward without religion. I have visited Europe and America; and there I beheld the power of Christianity. It is the secret of all true prosperity. Christianity gives birth to and fosters all that is noble, great, and good in those lands. Where was Europe before Christianity? What would America be without Christ? I am sorry to learn that Japan is indifferent to the supreme importance of religion. You cannot prosper without it. Make your religion as rational, as national as you please, but a religion you must have."

The above is a very imperfect report of his lecture which was of rare interest from beginning to end. The speaker was heartily cheered at the close of his remarks by the students who were evidently moved by his eloquence. After the lecture he met the Professors in the reception-room, where refreshments were served, and a very exciting, but agreeable, hour was spent in conversation together. Questions on science, philosophy, religion, and the new religious movement of India, the Bramo Somaj, were poured upon him from all sides, but he remained cool, and self-possessed, replying to all with remarkable ease and tact.

THE CONFEDERATE CRUISERS.

The Secret Service of the Confederate States in Europe; or, How the Confederate Cruisers were Equipped. By JAMES D. BULLOCH, Naval Representative of the Confederate States in Europe during the Civil War. G. P. Putnam Sons. 2 vols., pp. 460-438.

As indicated by the above title, Captain Bulloch was the officer selected by the Confederate authorities to organise and equip their naval demonstrations from abroad, and his operations are related in the two large, somewhat loosely jointed, but interesting volumes under consideration. At the outbreak of the civil war the South found itself singularly barren of materials or resources for the creation of a navy. Beyond a few merchant steamers of indifferent character in its ports, there were no vessels within reach to meet the naval ships of the North, which, for their period represented a more efficient and complete naval force than we now possess. There was but one shop in the whole Confederacy capable of turning out a first-class marine engine, and no available yards for ship-building. The Pensacola and Norfolk yards, it is true, were for a time in possession of the Confederates, but the former was a place of repair, not of construction; and the latter, when it fell into their hands after its unnecessary evacuation by the Federal forces under Commodore McCauley, in April, 1861, was already rendered useless for the despatch of cruisers by the enemy's occupation of its outlet at Hampton Roads. This latter yard, it is worth remark, in passing, supplied the Confederates not only with the hull and engines out of which the *Merrimac* was created, but also with what Captain Bulloch fails to notice particularly, a store of heavy artillery (at least twelve hundred guns, according to Soley, Parker, and other authorities) sufficient to provide for their immediate need. It was with these guns that the Confederates equipped their otherwise comparatively inoffensive coast-fortifications and gunboats, and found material for the effective thirty-two-pounder rifled and banded pieces which they so cleverly improvised.

Under these circumstances, the attention of the Confederate naval authorities was early turned to foreign sources for the development of the insignificant germ of a navy then in hand. Accordingly we find, as probably one of the last letters coming through the mails which has yet reached the North

from the seceded States, a communication, dated April 23, 1861, from Judah P. Benjamin, then Secretary of State under the Montgomery Government, requesting Captain Bulloch, at New York, to come forthwith to Montgomery. Arriving there a few days later, he was despatched to England on the following day, under brief instructions, the execution of which led to the events which form the subject of his book. It is interesting to observe that, in the brief colloquy which Captain Bulloch had on this occasion with Mr. Mallory, then the Secretary of the Navy of the Provisional Government, and afterward holding the same post under the Confederate Government, it appeared that, although the Montgomery authorities ultimately expected a formal recognition of their Government by foreign nations, nothing but the comity of the latter to a belligerent was sought, or expected to be invoked, at that period.

Arriving in England in June, 1861, Captain Bulloch found himself without funds or a status sufficient to render his task encouraging, and with the formidable Foreign Enlistment Act staring his enterprise in the face. This statute, since amended, and afterward largely considered in the *Alabama* case at Geneva, forbade any person to "equip, furnish, fit out, or arm" any vessel within the realm for the purpose of making war on any foreign state or persons, and provided, in the event of its violation, not only for a forfeiture of the property, but, certain penal features applicable to the parties concerned. Sufficient as the provisions of the Act would seem, at first blush, to prevent his purpose, Captain Bulloch, as the event proved, found a way, if not to "drive a coach and four" through it, at least to slip through a few cruisers. Taking advice of eminent counsel, he found he could (as in fact he did) build his ships within Her Majesty's dominions, leaving the work of supplying their equipment—i.e., the necessary appliances for warfare—to be performed elsewhere, whether in obscure foreign ports, by the aid of tenders which took the materials out as ordinary merchandise, or otherwise. With this construction of the existing law to stand upon, in spite of many obstacles thrown in his way, the zeal of Mr. Dudley, the United States Consul at Liverpool, and Mr. Adams, the American Minister, and even of difficulties arising from the indiscreet babble of friends, he managed to build and despatch the *Florida*, *Alabama*, and other vessels, with results with which the world is familiar. Their work began the decadence of American commerce, and the heavy bill of damages they caused against England at Geneva represents but a small portion of the loss, one way or another, attributable to them.

With that promptitude which characterized all of Captain Bulloch's work, and which was largely the secret of its success, he caused the keel of the *Oreto* (afterward the *Florida*) to be laid in the same month in which he arrived in England, and even before his first remittances had arrived from home. The same energy led to the building of the *Alabama* a few months later, and was evidenced again in the prompt despatch of this latter ship on a pretended further trial-trip, when the author had received information, "from a private but most reliable source, that it would not be safe to leave the ship in Liverpool another forty-eight hours." And as an example of Captain Bulloch's restless activity, we find that while awaiting the completion of the *Florida* and *Alabama*, he bought and took home to the South, through the Savannah blockade, with a cargo of army supplies, the steamer *Fingal*, which was afterward altered into the ironclad ram *Atalanta*, and suffered capture a year or two later, in a brief engagement under the guns of the monitors *Passaic* and *Nahant*. One object of this incidental trip was to obtain opportunity for conference with the naval authorities at Richmond. On her way out, the *Fingal* met the Confederate steamer *Nashville* at Bermuda, the latter being then bound for England, where she created so much talk and stir, and whence she departed home unexpectedly, before her officers and crew could be transferred to the *Florida*, as was intended.

The successful career of the *Alabama* and *Florida* illustrates the skill and foresight with which they were designed. It was apparent that, to keep the sea effectively, they must be capable of speed under sail alone, and dependent on their auxiliary steam power only in emergency. The various foreign nations had early proclaimed rules of neutrality intended to restrict the use of their ports by vessels of either belligerent, particularly in the matter of supplies of coal, and the home ports of the Southern vessels were in effect sealed against them by the blockade. Hence the two ships in question were built with fine lines for speed, and carried exceptional spread of canvas, especially in their fore and aft sails. Their chief cruising was done under sail alone, and they made a port only at long intervals, while their operations against the merchant-ships were

carried on at times almost under the guns of the enemy. On this point Captain Bulloch remarks that he has always thought

that the United States Navy Department showed either great apathy or was singularly blind to the real danger to the commerce of the United States, and strangely negligent in using the means to protect it. The points of attack were so apparent that it seems hardly credible that they were never occupied.

After describing in detail the course of American vessels between their home ports and those of the east and west coasts of South America, the Cape of Good Hope, and the East Indies, and showing that to catch the north-east and south-east trade-winds effectively they must pass near Fernando de Noronha, when about crossing the Atlantic equator, Captain Bulloch continues:—

If the United States had stationed a few ships to cruise in couplets in the neighborhood of the above named 'forks of the road,' as they have been called by Maury, and a few more, say, in the Straits of Malacca, and on the principal east and well-known cruising-ground of their whaling fleet, two or three Confederate cruisers could not have remained for weeks in the track of passing ships, capturing and destroying them without hindrance. Neither the *Alabama*, *Florida*, nor *Sumter* was driven from her work in any particular latitude; they shifted their cruising-grounds only when it seemed advisable to seek fresh victims elsewhere; and the *Shenandoah* went round the world, sought out the great American whaling-fleet in the North Pacific, and destroyed thirty-eight vessels without so much as seeing a man-of-war."

The Navy Department did send out the steamer *Vanderbilt* and other vessels with instructions to cruise over nearly the same route that Captain Bulloch indicates, and it would appear to have been in some degree a matter of luck that the commerce-destroyers so long escaped an encounter. Professor Soley, in commenting upon the judicious instructions given to the commander of the *Vanderbilt* on this occasion, says that they were defeated by Captain Wilkes, who annexed that vessel to his flying squadron, and refused to give her up until peremptory orders had been issued from the Department, thus delaying her until the birds had flown and her plans proved abortive.

Of the midnight surprise and capture of the *Florida* by the *Wachusett*, under Captain Collins, in the neutral port of Bahia, Captain Bulloch speaks in strong terms, characterizing it as an act of "assassination." The *Kearsarge's* duel with and victory over the *Alabama* off Cherbourg was a different matter, and recalls the chivalric challenges and combats of the older school of naval warriors. The story of the famous fight of June 11, 1864, is retold freshly and with great fairness by Captain Bulloch. He finds, in brief, that "the result of the action was determined by the superior accuracy of the firing of the *Kearsarge*," and, in common with other reasonable people, holds that Captain Winslow's protection of his ship by hanging her chain-cables outboard over the more vulnerable parts was a sensible performance, notwithstanding the strictures this circumstance provoked—chiefly among Southerners—at the time. The well-known fact of the unexploded shell from the *Alabama*, which lodged in the *Kearsarge's* most vital parts—the sternpost, near the screw, rudder, and wood-ends—early in the action, is worth recalling, as a curious example of what minute chances success sometimes turns upon in warfare. Concerning the much-discussed attitude of the English yacht *Deerhound*, in carrying off and landing in England some of the *Alabama's* crew and officers from the sinking ship, Captain Bulloch fails to note the important fact pointed out by Professor Soley, that before the *Deerhound* intervened, she was hailed from the *Kearsarge* and asked to assist in taking off the *Alabama's* people. This latter authority, in a review of the case concludes that the *Kearsarge* had no right, under these circumstances, to expect that the *Deerhound* would deliver up the rescued men into imprisonment, and fails to see how any blame can be imputed to her owner in the premises.

We have thus far chiefly confined our attention (with many omissions) to Captain Bulloch's operations in England, but his chapters concerning the attempts to build and despatch vessels in France possess equal interest, particularly for their nearly positive evidence that no less a person than the Emperor himself, at one time, smiled upon and fostered these efforts. But that exalted personage was not unpractised in the methods of shifty diplomacy, and could, on occasion, with equal facility, blow either hot or cold. It appears that, early in 1863, the Confederate authorities had received intimation from high officials in France that facilities would be offered for the construction and equipment of ironclad ships-of-war in that country, and that this intimation was of a sufficiently formal character to induce the passage of a secret act, by the Confederate Congress, appropriating £2,000,000 for this purpose. These facts were communicated to Captain Bulloch, in a cipher despatch, by the hand of a special messenger, under date of May 6 of that

year; from which, by the way, it appears that Secretary Mallory not only felt sure of his ground in constructing these ships, but even supposed it possible that "one or more of the ironclads of the French navy might be so transferred" as to come into Confederate possession.

Before the receipt of these advices, however, Captain Bulloch, having himself received intimations from France of somewhat similar character, was already in treaty with a French shipbuilder for the construction of suitable vessels. This was a M. Arman, who, then engaged in building large armored vessels for the imperial navy at his Bordeaux yard, where he had been recently personally decorated by the Emperor, was a deputy in the Corps Législatif, and, as it appears, possessed of facilities for obtaining personal interviews, on occasion, not only with M. Rouher, the Minister of State, but with his Imperial Majesty himself. On M. Arman's assurance that he was "confidentially informed by the Minister of State that the Emperor was willing for him to undertake the construction of ships for the Confederate Government," and to let them go to sea under the French flag, for delivery at any desired point, Captain Bulloch ordered a formidable fleet of four clipper corvettes of twelve or fourteen six-inch rifle-guns each, and two ironclads of large power. What these effective vessels might have accomplished on the Northern coast, in the hands of the daring Confederate officers who were awaiting their completion, and how much they might have delayed the march of events in the then waning fortunes of the South, it is idle now to discuss. Whether it was bad news from Bazaine in Mexico, or Lee's shattered recoil from Gettysburg, that suggested a more cautious consideration of the protest from the United States, by that time lodged against these vessels, we shall perhaps never know; but this much is clear, that when Mr. Dayton, the American Minister presented his complaint, the shipbuilders concerned were sent for and informed, with fine official indignation, that their plans must forthwith be abandoned.

M. Arman, indeed, was treated to a personal interview with the Emperor, who "soundly rated" him, and, threatening imprisonment in the event of further dealings with the Confederates, dismissed him to such loss as his suddenly aborted transactions might involve. That the purpose of these vessels was fully known to the Emperor and his ministers, and their building connived at, admits of little doubt. Formal official authority to arm the ships had been duly furnished to the builders by the Minister of Marine, this functionary (M. Chasseloup-Laubat) writing under his official signature to M. Arman, under date of June 6, 1863, in reference to the corvettes, as follows:—

Je m'empresse de vous faire connaître . . . que je vous autorise volontiers à pourvoir d'un armement de douze à quatorze canons de trente les quatre bâtiments à vapeur, en bois et en fer, qui se construisent en ce moment à Bordeaux et à Nantes. Je vous prie de vouloir bien m'informer en temps utile de l'époque à laquelle ces navires seront prêts à prendre la mer, afin que je donne les instructions nécessaires à MM. les chefs du service de la Marine dans ces deux ports.

To this evidence may be added, as a bit of interesting history not generally known (or, indeed, known to Captain Bulloch, perhaps), the fact that the official records of the Richmond Government on this subject, including such papers as Mr. Sidel, their representative in France, had obtained from the imperial officials, were solemnly destroyed in the furnace of the Mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, on the retreat from Richmond of Mr. Davis and his Cabinet. And it was observed by such of those Confederate officials as were soon after captured and imprisoned, that one of the chief matters of inquiry directed to them by Mr. Seward was the French encouragement in the naval operations here referred to. It is said by Southerners in the confidence of these officials, that the reason for the detention of Mr. Mallory at Fort Lafayette (the last Confederate prisoner except Mr. Davis himself) was Mr. Seward's confident belief that he could produce these papers, which were then very much desired at the State Department in Washington, for use against the Emperor of the French in the matter of dislodging Maximilian from Mexico.

In construction Captain Bulloch's book is defective. The practice of following out each subject to its conclusion, without considering it in its relation to others, leads to much repetition, and, in consequence, to unnecessary length. But in discussing the events of the war, the work is conspicuously fair—there being, indeed, a somewhat over-punctiliousness at times in the effort to do justice—and it is uniformly interesting. The absence of an index seriously detracts from the usefulness of a book of this character for purposes of reference, but as a whole it constitutes a decidedly valuable contribution not only to naval history generally, but to the full history of the civil war.—*Nation*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 30th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

Paris journals urge the occupation of Hainan, Formosa, and Chusan, as a guarantee for war expenses.

London, January 2nd.

THE CONDITION OF IRELAND.

Disturbances created by Orangemen and Parnellites continue in Ireland.

Earl Spencer has arrived in London, and is everywhere guarded by police.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 12th December.

Mr. Parnell, when receiving in Dublin a testimonial of £38,000 sterling, counselled patience and said he had every confidence that the independence of Ireland is obtainable.

London, 14th December.

The hillmen are threatening Suakim. Baker Pasha will take the command of an expedition fitting out consisting of 8,000 Egyptian troops.

London, 17th December.

3,000 reinforcements start for Tonquin next week and 3,000 in the middle January. No attack is expected to be made on Bac-ninh until they arrive.

London, 19th December.

The French Chamber of Deputies has approved vote of credit for Tonquin.

The British Government will not intervene in Soudan.

London, 24th December.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND CHINA.

His Excellency the Marquis Tseng, who has had several interviews with M. Ferry lately respecting the Tonquin question, returns to London to-day.

The diplomatic relations between the French and Chinese Governments still remain undisturbed, and there is no talk of a rupture so far.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30,* 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00,* 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-SHINMACHI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and SHINMACHI at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.65; First-class, yen 1.58; Third-class, sen 79.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.50 and 10.30 a.m., and 12.15, 2.30, and 4 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.15 and 9 a.m., and 12 m. and 1.45 and 4.00 p.m.

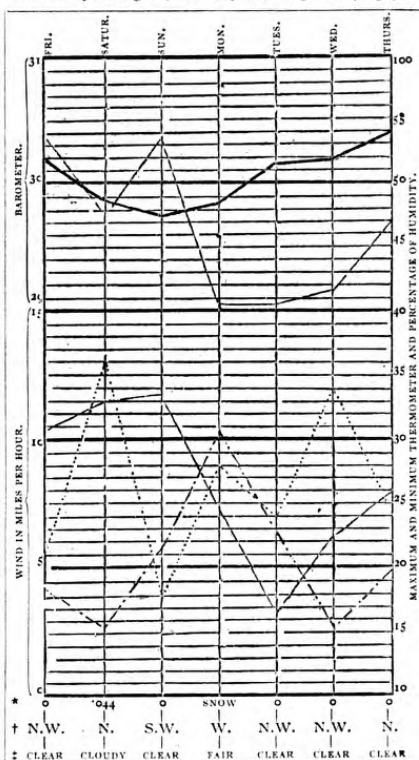
TIME-GUN.

A time-gun is fired every Saturday from one of the Messageries Maritimes steamers at Noon.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hong6, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
--- represents velocity of wind.
--- percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 30.0 miles per hour on Monday at 2 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.493 inches on Thursday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.583 inches on Saturday at 2 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 53.3 on Friday, and the lowest was 16.2 on Tuesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 62.2 and 25.0 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was .044 inches, against .577 inches (rain and snow) for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe per M. B. Co. Monday, Jan. 7th.
From Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Monday, Jan. 7th.*
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Thursday, Jan. 10th.†
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Friday, Jan. 11th.‡

* City of Peking left Hongkong on December 31st. † Menakaleh (with French mail) left Hongkong on January 3rd. ‡ Oceanic left San Francisco on December 22nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe per M. B. Co. Tuesday, Jan. 8th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Jan. 9th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Jan. 9th.
For America per P. M. Co. Thursday, Jan. 10th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Jan. 12th.
For America per O. & O. Co. Friday, Jan. 18th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Jan. 19th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

Owing to the extension of the Army, the number of officers will be increased. The term at the Military College will be shortened one month, so that the diplomas will be conferred upon the graduating cadets in June next instead of July. They will then all receive direct commissions.

Yesterday, the celebration of the fire-brigade in honour of the New Year took place in presence of the Superintendent of the Police Bureau and others. At the pre-arranged signal, which was given by fire bells, the firemen assembled at the Police Stations in their respective districts, and, headed by the Chief Inspectors proceeded to the Parade-ground opposite the Police Bureau. After going through manoeuvres with the ladders, the firemen retired with pecuniary presents from the Police Bureau.

Mr. Techow, a Prussian officer, will confine himself to remodelling the common education. He will have no concern in the Universities where the scientific technicalities are taught. But as the Preparatory School (*Yobimon*) of the Tokiyo Daigaku belongs to the section of common education, he is paying serious attention to the system. He has often visited it and remarked to its officers that the Universities are not greatly different from those of European countries; but that the system, being entirely mechanical, its spirit is not what it ought to be. Concerning the report of the examinations, he is said to have expressed an opinion that it has had the effect of making students study hard merely for the sake of the examination.

The Press Laws will shortly be revised.

A preparatory Military College is to be erected for the training of young *Kwasoku* in the compound of the Military College at the expense of yen 30,000.

On the 30th of last month, a thief broke into the Tensho-in Temple, at Uyeno Park. He was armed with a long sword. Two police detected him and a fight ensued, in which one of the officers cut off both the arms of the thief and the other officer stabbed him so that he expired on the spot.

On the 30th of last month, three fires took place in succession in Tokiyo and destroyed ninety dwellings.—*Hochi Shimbun*.

A letter from Pusan, Korea, stated the 17th December, says:—On the 4th of November, the day after the Customs Regulations were issued, the steamship *Chinsei Maru* arrived from Inch6n. Her captain proposed to pay the dues in Korean cash, but the Custom House refused it, demanding that all dues should be paid in silver. This was in contravention of the Trade Regulations. However, the captain paid duties in silver lest he might miss the business opportunity while disputing. Two days afterward, the *Tamaura Maru* arrived and paid the dues in silver. The latter ship then proceeded to Inch6n and placed the matter in the hands of the Japanese Minister in S6ul in order to obtain redress for the irregularity. The Minister gave assurance that the dues should be paid in Korean cash. Accordingly, the Japanese merchants combined not to pay the dues in silver and to oppose the orders of the Custom House. They have held several meetings in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms. Finally, the Custom House was compelled to receive duties in Korean copper. The Korean rice crop threatens to be short this year.

The total amounts of the Export and Import duties at all the open ports during the 16th year of Meiji (1883) were yen 1,016,541.365, and yen 898,337.331 respectively. These, added to the income from other sources, amounted in the aggregate to yen 1,935,970.423.

A serious affray took place between the police and soldiers at Kiyobashi the day before yesterday. The police-box was demolished, and two officers were dangerously wounded.

Last year, 85,405 gold fish were exported, realising yen 70,200.—*Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

The general holiday of the past week amongst Japanese has perhaps had less effect on the freight business than in any other direction, but there is still stagnation and nothing worth noting. Similar reports are received from Shanghai and Hongkong, the only enquiry at the latter place being for small sailing bottoms, some of the disengaged tonnage there having been taken up to load sugar at Formosa for this and other ports.

ARRIVALS.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 29th December,—Kobe 27th December, General.—Seiriussha.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Adair, 29th December,—Glasgow 25th October and Hongkong 22nd December, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 30th December,—Fukuda 28th December, General.—Handasha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 30th December,—Kobe 27th December, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 31st December,—Hakodate 28th and Oginohama 30th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 1st January,—Kobe 31st December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 2nd January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kamchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman 2nd January,—Kobe 1st January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Amada, 2nd January,—Shimizu 30th December, General.—Seiriussha.

Koweki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 2nd January,—Yokkaichi 30th December, General.—Kowyekisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 2nd January,—Yokkaichi 27th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 2nd January,—Shimizu 30th December, General.—Seiriussha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 946, Thomas, 2nd January,—Nemuro 26th and Hakodate 29th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 972, Spiegelthal, 4th January,—Nagasaki 20th December, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 4th January,—Handa 2nd January, General.—Handasha.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 4th January,—Shimizu, 4th January, General.—Seiriussha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Matsu-moto, 4th January,—Yokkaichi 2nd January, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 5th January,—Hongkong 27th December via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 776, Kawaoka Hikoza, 5th January,—Kobe 3rd January, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 29th December,—Kamasaki, General.—Seiriussha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 30th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 30th December,—Kobe, General.—Seiriussha.

Pembrokehire, British steamer, 1,760, Davis, 30th December,—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 30th December,—Toba, General.—Seiriussha.

Skobelev, Russian corvette, Captain Blanodareff, 30th December,—Nagasaki.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 2nd January,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain 2nd January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 3rd January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 4th January,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 4th January,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 597, Thomas, 4th January,—Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 750, MacFarlane, 4th January,—Hakodate via Otaru, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kamchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman, 5th January,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Volga, French steamer, 1,858, Benois, 5th January,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Kobe: 80 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate:—Miss Andrews, Rev. Andrews, Messrs. Batchelor, Mansbridge, Mihara, Watanabe, and Izumi in cabin; and 121 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Sir James Duke, Bishop C. M. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Matsudaira, Captain B. Carrick, Lieutenant F. H. James, Mrs. Graham and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Mori, Messrs. E. Moriss, Nishimura, Takano, F. Dubois, C. W. Hoffmann, L. D. Abraham, A. Anatoly, Asada, Seki, Toda, and Makino in cabin; and Mrs. Graham's servant, and 149 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Nemuro via Hakodate:—50 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Kobe:—20 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Lo Wai Tong, Rev. J. C. Davidson and servant, Messrs. Lase, J. Mahlmann, Lue Tai Sung, and Chun Ching in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 14 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss E. Hartwell, Miss M. N. Roberts, Master Hachisuka, Messrs. W. Sagel, C. Taylor, J. F. Twombly, Juai, Miyaki, Fujikawa, Nakazato, Zeisho, Katsube, and Takagi in cabin.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. Mantelin, Mrs. H. Fon, Messrs. Alan Owston, Thomas Napier, Telfer, and Hector Ponsigiam in cabin; and 29 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$57,500.00.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Twist, 697 bales; Cotton, 249 bales; Sugar, 2,425 bags; Sundries, 1,147 packages.

Per French steamer *Volga*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 84 bales; for England, 15 bales; Total, 99 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain John C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 28th December, at 6.45 a.m. with hard N.W. gale and heavy snow squalls to Oginohama where arrived on the 29th December, at 7 a.m.; and left Oginohama on the 30th December, at 6.30 a.m. with fresh westerly gale to Inuboye; thence to Sagami blowing a very heavy W.S.W. gale with mountainous head sea and clear sky. Arrived at Yokohama on the 31st December, at 3.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 31st December, at 4.40 p.m. with strong N.W. winds to Omiasaki; thence to port light N.E. winds and fine weather throughout the whole voyage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 1st January, at 11.20 p.m. Passage, 30 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Captain Thomas, reports leaving Hakodate on the 29th December, at 3 p.m. with moderate S.S.E. winds

and thick rainy weather accompanied by snow squalls, to Siria Saki increasing to a heavy gale and during to the S.W. on the midnight of the 30th December, gale increasing with terrific force and mountainous sea making a clean breach over the vessel fore and aft, at 6 a.m. increasing wind W. S.W. barometer 29.23. At 9 a.m. moderated some and thence to port fresh West and S.W. gales with a high sea. Arrived in Yokohama on the 1st January, 1884, at 8 a.m.

The British steamer *Khiva*, Captain P. Harris, reports leaving Hongkong on the 27th December, at 1.30 p.m. with fresh to moderate monsoon along the China coast; thick, rainy weather off Turnabout; between the coasts of China and Japan strong N.W. gale and a high beam sea, ship labouring and straining considerably. Arrived at Nagasaki on the 1st January, at 5.30 a.m., and left on the same day, at 3.45 p.m. In the Inland Sea and between Kobe and Yokohama light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Kobe on the 3rd January, at 7.15 a.m. and left for Yokohama on the same day, at 2.51 p.m. On the 2nd January, at 7 a.m., off Isaki Lighthouse, passed the steamship *Zambesi* bound west.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 2nd January,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October,—Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 5th January,—Hongkong 27th December via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Mark Lane, British steamer, 1,384, R. Porter, 24th December,—Shanghai via Nagasaki 21st December, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Captain Allen, 14th December,—Lighthouse Inspection, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, C. H. Porrett, 24th December,—Hull via Singapore and Nagasaki 20th December, Coals and General.—Owston, Snow & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Alma, American schooner, 45, Brassey, 10th November,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Black Diamond, German bark, 585, Folley, 30th September,—Puget Sound, Lumber and Salmon.—P. Bohm.

Cross Hill, British bark, 1,019, J. Smith, 23rd November,—Cardiff 4th June, Patent Fuel.—H. MacArthur.

Diana, American schooner, 77, Peterson, 28th October,—North, Skins and Oil.—Captain.

Dorothy, British bark, 320, A. Croal, 26th December,—Nagasaki 13th December, Coals.—A. Center.

E. von Beaulieu, British bark, 353, 20th November,—Nagasaki 7th November, Coals.—A. Clark.

Guam, British 3-masted schooner, 294, Marns, 23rd August,—Takao 2nd August, Sugar.—Master.

Helena, British schooner, 60, Busk, 9th November,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—Captain.

Iceberg, American ship, 1,135, A. L. Carver, 27th December,—New York 5th July, 40,000 cases Kerosene and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Fennie Harkness, American bark, 1,373, E. Amesbury, 20th December,—New York 13th July, 47,000 cases Kerosene.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Lisa, American schooner, 70, Weston, 6th November,—Kurile Islands, General.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Loretta Fish, American ship, 1,847, H. A. Hyler, 4th December,—New York 8th June, Kerosene and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Mary C. Bohm, German schooner, 48, Baade, 23rd November,—Kurile Islands 13th November, Furs.—P. Bohm.

Nemo, Russian schooner, Ridderbjelke, 28th October,—North, Skins and Oil.—Ginsburg.

Otsego, British schooner, 46, Evalt, 12th November,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—Captain.

Rose, Russian schooner, 53, Wilson, 14th November,—Kurile Islands 8th November, Furs.—R. Clarke.

Saghalien, Russian schooner, 52, Johnson, 17th November,—Hakodate 10th November, Whale oil and General.—R. Clarke.

Stella, Russian schooner, 40, Isaccs, 10th November,—Kurile Islands 8th November, Furs.—F. Retz.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The enquiry and improvement noted last week in Yarns and Shirtings, although on a small scale only, have ceased on account of the holidays of the past week, but hopes are entertained of a revival shortly, especially in Piece-goods and Velvets, these being held for an advance which will probably have to be paid. Metals of all kinds are in no better request.

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium	\$24.50 to 27.50
Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best	28.25 to 29.25
Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best	25.00 to 27.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium	29.00 to 30.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best	31.00 to 33.25
Nos. 38 to 42	34.00 to 36.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches	1.70 to 2.15
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches	1.85 to 2.30
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.35 to 1.45
Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.75
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.10 to 2.40
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.07 to 0.09
Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.15 to 1.45
Turkey Reds—2½ to 2¾ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.45 to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.82½
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.50 to 7.25
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.60 to 0.70
Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches	1.75 to 2.05

WOOLENS.

Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches	\$3.50 to 5.25
Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches	3.25 to 4.00
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.18 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14½ to 0.16
Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.18½ to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.30 to 0.38½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.40
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.50
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.55
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb	0.35 to 0.40

IRON.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	\$2.50 to 2.85
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	2.80 to 2.90
Round and square up to 2 inch	2.80 to 2.90
Nailrod, assorted	2.35 to 2.60
Nailrod, small size	2.85 to 3.15

KEROSENE.

Since the holidays business has been opened by the sale of 7,000 cases Devoe at \$1.72, and 3,000 cases Stella at \$1.58 per case. Deliveries were not resumed until yesterday, when 10,000 cases were taken out of godown. Stocks of sold and unsold Oil amount to about 680,000 cases in first hands. We quote:—

	PER CASE.
Devoe	\$1.72
Comet	1.69
Stella	1.58

SUGAR.

The Market is still inactive, but a slight concession on the part of holders has induced a few transactions in Brown Formosa. In other sorts no alteration in quotations.

	PER PICUL.
White, No. 1	\$8.00 to 8.35
White, No. 2	6.75 to 7.00
White, No. 3	6.30 to 6.50
White, No. 4	5.80 to 6.00
White, No. 5	4.60 to 4.75
Brown Formosa	3.90 to 4.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was dated 28th December, 1883, and since then the usual holidays at the turn of the year have tended to restrict business. Buyers and sellers have, apparently with one consent, given themselves to civility and festivity; still there has been some business passing, and Settlements for the week are returned as 300 piculs. Telegrams reporting better Markets on the other side have been received; buying has recommenced;

and the New Year opens with more demand for most classes and a stronger Market all round. Prices have an upward tendency for some kinds, and sellers anticipate a still better time in the near future.

The *Zambesi*, which left with the English mail on the 29th ultimo, took 275 bales only, of which 75 were for England and 200 for the Continent of Europe. This brings the total Export for the six months up to 23,704 bales (the largest ever known) against 18,295 bales to same date last year.

Arrivals have come in rather more freely, and the total Stock of all descriptions is now about 4,500 piculs. No doubt supplies will presently fall off, especially from some provinces; but the crop has been exceptionally large and there should be a good reserve of silk in the country still to come forward.

Hanks.—Better news have brought in a few buyers and some fairly large parcels have been taken at full rates. Among the sales we notice good Shinshu at \$490 and Hachoji at \$450. We leave quotations unchanged, with the turn against buyers.

Filatures.—There has been some demand for these, and but for the reticence of holders (some of whom have returned to the interior for "Shogatsu") more business would have been done. In fine-sized silks we observe transactions in Mino sorts at about \$620: in coarser kinds, fair to good 1½ have found purchasers at \$585 to \$590. Buying for the outgoing American mail does not seem to have yet commenced in earnest, but the scarcity of good silks suitable for that Market will doubtless tend to harden prices.

Re-reels.—But very little has been done in these. Quotations are unchanged at \$575 for "Five Girl," and \$555 for "Stag."

Kakedas.—These have been in some request: the market is for the moment rather bare of sorts grading from 2 to 3, present Stock consisting largely of 1½ to 2, with a sprinkling of No. 1, and some ultra-common.

Oshu.—The style of business noted in our last continues, and Hamatsuki good to best are worth \$475. In other kinds little or nothing doing.

Taysam Kinds.—No purchases reported, prices nominally unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No. 1½	\$500 to 510
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	490 to 500
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	480 to 490
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	475 to 485
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	465 to 475
Hanks—No. 3	450 to 460
Hanks—No. 3½	430 to 440
Filatures—Extra	620 to 630
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	600 to 610
Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	580 to 590
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	580 to 590
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	570 to 580
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	540 to 550
Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers	580 to 590
Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers	565 to 575
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	555 to 565
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	530 to 540
Kakedas—Extra	605 nom'l
Kakedas—No. 1	585 to 595
Kakedas—No. 2	535 to 545
Kakedas—No. 3	510 to 520
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	465 to 475
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	470 to 480
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	420 to 440
Sodai—No. 2½	Nom. 400 to 410

Export Tables Raw Silk to 4th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
France and Italy	14,462	9,472	4,171
America	6,856	5,896	2,674
England	2,386	2,927	1,953
Total	23,704	18,295	8,798

WASTE SILK.

The holiday season does not seem to have greatly interfered with business in this department, the daily purchases giving a total of 400 piculs for the week under review. With the single exception of *Pierced Cocoons*, all kinds have shared in the demand, and Stocks are still further reduced. We leave all quotations unchanged, but some Wastes are getting scarce and hard to find at any price.

Pierced Cocoons.—No transactions, and very little Stock. Judging from the quantity exported

last season, there should be some further supplies to come from the interior but there are no signs of fresh arrivals at present.

Noshi-ito.—Again the principal demand has been for *Joshu*, "good medium to good" being freely taken at from \$85 to \$87½. Desirable kinds are scarce and prices tend in sellers' favour. There has been something done in *Oshu* at \$142½ for "good to best," and a little fine *Hachoji* has brought \$107.

Kibiso.—The enquiries for "fair to common" have subsided, but "good to best" Filatures are still wanted. Business has been done in "Best selected" at from \$120 to \$115, according to district, and for the moment the demand exceeds the supply. Some sales of *Oshu* reported, at \$107 for best quality, with seconds and thirds respectively at \$95 and \$85.

Mawata.—Some few small arrivals have been readily taken up, and there is practically no Stock remaining. Prices paid have ranged from \$170 for "good" to \$195 for "extra."

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair	\$ 90 to 100
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	110
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	100
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	87½
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	110 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good	95 to 90
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	70
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	50 to 60
Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common	50 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	20 to 12½
Mawata—Good to Best	170 to 180

Export Table Waste Silk to 4th Jan., 1884:—

	SEASON 1883-1884.	1882-1883.	1881-1882.
	PICULS.	PICULS.	PICULS.
Waste Silk	14,756	11,876	8,987
Pierced Cocoons	1,933	3,065	2,500
	16,689	14,941	11,547

Exchange.—Banks have again been closed part of the week and business has hardly been resumed. Rates may be quoted:—London 4 m/s., Credits, 3/9½; Documents, 3/9½; New York 30 d/s., 91½; 60 d/s., 92; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.80. *Kinsatsu*, after a momentary dip to 107, have recovered to about 109 for \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 4th Jan., 1884:—

RAW.	PICULS.	WASTE.	PICULS.
Hanks	2,000	Pierced Cocoons ..	75
Filature & Re-reels ..	1,400	Noshi-ito	125
Kakeda	550	Kibiso	600
Sendai & Hamatsuki ..	400	Mawata	50
Taysam Kinds	150		
Total piculs	4,500	Total piculs	850

TEA.

Owing to the New Year Holidays, business for the week now under review has been almost suspended, transactions aggregating but 375 piculs, comprising the following grades:—Common 20, Good Common 150, Good Medium 140, and Finest 65 piculs. Settlements for the season show a falling off of 7,214 piculs as compared with this date last year. Prices are firm at the undernoted quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Common	\$10 & under
Good Common	12 to 14
Medium	16 to 18
Good Medium	20 & up'ds

EXCHANGE.

The holidays having taken place, business has been almost nominal. Rates have again declined.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	3/8½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	3/9½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	3/9½
On Paris—Bank sight	4/70
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight	4/80
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	4 ¼ dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On New York—Bank Bills on demand	90½
On New York—Private 30 days' sight	91½
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand	90½
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight	91½

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